

**VILLAGE OF SHOREWOOD HILLS**  
**Public Health & Safety Committee Minutes - APPROVED**

**Date and Time:** Thursday, December 5, 2024 - 7:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual via Zoom

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Bob Falk called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.
2. **Roll call:** Committee members present were Mr. Falk, Bill Muehl (via telephone initially), Jeremy Tunis and Robb Stankey. Shabnam Lotfi joined the meeting at about 7:09 pm. Nadeem Afghan and Jim Rogers were excused. Administrative Services Coordinator David Sykes and Police Chief candidate John Nault.
3. **Note compliance with open meeting law:** Mr. Sykes confirmed that the meeting was properly posted.
4. **Approve meeting minutes from October 3, 2024:** Mr. Muehl moved and Mr. Stankey seconded a motion to approve the October 3, 2024 with a couple of typo corrections. Motion carried.
5. **Public Comments** (This is an opportunity for community members to speak to the Committee. No discussion or action may take place at this time and speakers may be limited to three minutes): None.
6. **Status of lawn mower noise complaint**  
Mr. Falk explained the recommendation from a resident that the Village require electric-only lawn mowers within the Village. His research into the cost of mowers and their current use within the community made a change at this time seem more aspirational rather than practical. He suggested that when the Village transitions their equipment from gas to electric, that this suggestion could be revisited.
7. **Status of tornado siren complaint (Circle Close)**  
Mr. Falk reviewed the discussion and presentation by Dane County Emergency Management at the last meeting. Staff met with Carrie Meier from Emergency Management on the first Wednesday in October when the siren was being tested. Everyone acknowledged that the siren is loud (as it is intended to be) but concluded that it would not be appropriate to move it from Circle Close. The Village Administrator has corresponded with the complainant and neighbors that signed a petition letter. There was nothing further to report at this time.
8. **Discussion of modifications to Chapter 21 Ordinance on Noise Regulation which includes a restriction on heavy machinery noise on weekends**  
Mr. Falk reviewed the history of the complaint about use of heavy construction equipment on a Saturday for a new home that is being built. He provided the Committee with some suggestions for updating Chapter 21 (Noise Ordinance) of the Village Code of Ordinances. The changes address testing, enforcement and a moratorium on heavy construction noise on the weekend.

Mr. Stankey appreciated his attempt to clean up the technical and enforcement sections of the ordinance. He cautioned the Committee to consider the unintended consequences of this change, for example, neighbors “weaponizing” the restrictions.

Ms. Lofti felt that educating the contractors of the noise ordinance is key to compliance.

Mr. Falk asked the Committee to review his suggested changes to Chapter 21 (Noise Ordinance) and provide him with any additional modifications before the Committee’s January meeting.

- 9. Fire, EMS and Police call review:** The Committee acknowledged the receipt of the 3rd quarter (July-September) Fire & EMS call review, and the October and November Police call reviews.

**Report on Future Agenda Items from the previous meeting:**

- Update on ad hoc Police Retention/Recruitment Committee – Mr. Falk provided an update. The Committee is getting closer to a point where they will report their findings to the Board of Trustees. They will likely have one or two more meetings.
- Update on Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant proposal – Mr. Falk reported that the Village did receive the \$150K grant for planning. The funds should arrive in 2025 and the Village will seek a consultant to assist with developing a plan.
- Update on process of Police Chief Hiring – Mr. Falk reported that a panel interviewed three good candidates earlier today but he couldn’t share anything more at this time.

- 10. Future Agenda Items** – This is an opportunity for committee members to request an item be added to a future agenda. No discussion may take place on any requested items at this time and committee members should not make lengthy statements on their request.

- a. Continue monthly police call reports and quarterly EMS/Fire reports
- b. Update on ad hoc Police Retention/Recruitment Committee
- c. Update on Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant proposal
- d. Update on process of Police Chief Hiring

- 11. Next Meeting Date:** Tentatively scheduled for Thursday, January 9, 2025 at 7:00 pm.

- 12. Adjourn:** Mr. Muehl moved and Mr. Stankey seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

David Sykes  
Administrative Services Coordinator