

**DOWNERS GROVE VILLAGE COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY SUBCOMMITTEE and
BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 20, 2001
7:30 A.M.**

*Approved
11/15/01*

Members Present: Commissioner Gilbert, Commissioner Sisul, Commissioner Killacky, Commissioner Owens and Commissioner Leng

Others Present: Riccardo Ginex, Village Manager, Acting DC Gilbert, Acting DC Ruscetti, Police Chief Porter and Enza Petrarca, Assistant Village Attorney

Meeting called to order at 7:40 a.m.

Minutes from the August 29, 2001 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Committee.

Discussion:

Commissioner Gilbert began by explaining the reasoning for Stan Grenias not being re-appointed as the Chairman of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners. He explained that it is the philosophy of the Village Council to allow different people to serve on the Village Boards and to give everyone an opportunity to serve the community. He thanked Stan Grenias for all of his time and effort and encouraged the members of the current Board to call and meet Grenias for any advice or input.

The history and the role of the Public Safety Committee were explained, as well as the other Village Council Subcommittees. The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was encouraged to raise any issues and to use the Committee as a sounding board.

The history and the role of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners were discussed. Basically, its role is to make hiring decisions and to act on disciplinary actions. The Board was encouraged to establish its own procedures and guidelines. The members of the Board were asked to set up new meeting procedures and to use their expertise in making decisions. Commissioner Killacky requested a list of items from the Police and Fire Departments.

Chief Porter provided an update on the Police Department. The department has had several recent hires and promotions in the last two months. The Community Policing Program and the Traffic Unit have been established. The Department has become more pro-active rather than reactive. He has also established a recruitment team – consisting of Lt. Church and Sgt. Willison. They will be targeting universities and colleges. They have also developed a new recruitment pamphlet. Chief Porter also reported that the Department's first recruit hired from the Illinois Police Corp has started working for the Village. The Committee requested that the Police Department prepare a press release explaining the program.

DC Ruscetti reported that the Fire Department has also had several recent hires and promotions. The Department's plans include creating a third ALS engine. Also, creating a mobile unit staffed by two paramedics to serve the Northwest Territory. The Department has also been revisiting the issue of opening Station 4. Commissioner Sisul asked that the Department analyze whether it will be beneficial to reopen that station.

The issue of recruitment was discussed. The importance of education and practical experience was discussed.

The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners scheduled a meeting for September 26, 2001 at 6:30 p.m.

The issue of Burr Ridge filing a lawsuit against SEDCOM was discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.