

Safety Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
July 2, 2015

The Safety Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday, June 29, 2015 following the Finance Committee with these members present:

Alex Rolletta, Chair
Jeremy Blake for Marc Guthrie Carol Floyd
Jeff Rath Curtis Johnson

We wish to report:

1. **Chief Connor**- presented information to the Safety Committee based on the questions that members of Council sent him as well as others asked that evening to try to clear up any issues regarding what is happening at the Newark City Fire Department. The questions were pertaining to staffing, mutual aid, overtime, the cost of staffing a fulltime firefighter including benefits, what the Chief saw as a solution in keeping the city safe. He stated if the Safety Committee wanted him to look into part time firefighters he would do that as a solution to this problem. He asked for the support from Council before the time was spent developing such a plan.

Director Spurgeon- discussed EMS billing. He stated that EMS billing is a cost recovery service. He also discussed the 40/60 split of the revenue between the Fire Department and the General Fund.

2. **Dave McElfresh, President of IAFF Local 109** gave a power point presentation regarding staffing in the Division of Fire. His presentation addressed response times, staffing numbers and budget information. He stated fewer firefighters, the unwillingness to hire and the ability to properly budget overtime impact safety.

There were questions and comments from:

Mr. Marmie, Mr. Cost, Mr. Rolletta, Mr. Rath, Mr. Blake, Chief Connor, Mark Frazier, David Greene, Janet Greene, Rhonda Loomis, Mr. Magnus, Mr. Reese, Paul Moran, Robert Pfeiffer and Theresa Mitchell.

Alex Rolletta, Chair