

*Village of Bloomington*  
Public Welfare, Law Enforcement, and Emergency Management Committee Meeting  
July 22, 2024

The Public Welfare, Law Enforcement, and Emergency Management Committee meeting of the Village Board was called to order by Chairperson Scott Daentl at 12:30 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Roll call was taken, present: Robert McLimans, Michelle Atterbury, Scott Daentl, and Officer Small. Dawn Drew arrived at 12:31 pm.

Daentl mentioned that he received a complaint from a resident who was unhappy with the stop signs at Mill Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The resident stated the lack of awareness of their presence nearly caused an accident. McLimans mentioned that the same resident also came to his house with a list of complaints regarding the stop signs. Various signage solutions were suggested, including coordination with the county for additional signs, better indication of stop signs ahead, options for flashing stop signs, and adding reflective tape or neon strips to increase visibility. McLimans will reach out to Tom Vesperman from the Grant County Highway Department regarding more signage. Trustees commented that the overall feedback received regarding the stop signs was positive.

A discussion was had on the current contract agreement for law enforcement. Officer Small presented three options for law enforcement within the Village:

1. Option 1: Continuing a private contract where Officer Small personally handles law enforcement tasks.
2. Option 2: Contracting with the Grant County Sheriff's Office for a dedicated part-time deputy.
3. Option 3: Re-establishing a part-time Bloomington Police Department.

Each option was discussed with their respective pros, cons, and estimated costs. Detailed financial comparisons were provided for different weekly patrol hours under each option. Estimated costs included equipment and vehicle outlays, particularly if establishing a village police force. Officer Small noted that there were grants available for items like body armor and computers, amongst other necessary equipment.

It was agreed that the information and options would be taken back to the full council and budget committee to determine the best path forward in terms of law enforcement presence in the village before any decision is made.

There was a brief consideration of items for the future agenda.

There being no additional business to come before the board, Daentl moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by McLimans. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer  
Shawna Atterbury