

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS

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APPROVED

Minutes

**Friendship Heights Village Council
Ad Hoc Public Safety Committee
Tuesday, January 17, 2023**

Council Committee members present: Melanie White; Bruce Pirnie.

Other Council members present: Alfred Muller, M.D.; Michael Dorsey.

Staff members present: Julian Mansfield; Jason Goldstein.

Others present: Five Village residents.

At 6 p.m., Mayor White called the Village Council Ad Hoc Public Safety Committee meeting to order. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible security enhancements in the Village.

Mr. Mansfield reviewed conversations that he and Mr. Goldstein had with neighboring municipal managers and Montgomery County Police officers to learn how they have used off-duty County Police officers to provide patrols in their communities. He indicated that the Committee should decide how many hours and days they would like for the patrol coverage as a recommendation to the full Village Council. In addition to the schedule, there are two options for the Council to consider: 1) The Village directly hires off-duty officers and advertises, recruits, and manages the officers; or 2) Similar to what the managers at the Town of Chevy Chase and Chevy Chase Section 5 are doing, the Village can utilize an officer-owned company to coordinate the recruitment, supervision, and management of the Village's off-duty officers. This individually run company knows the right officers to patrol the Village and can take care of all related administrative activities.

After discussion, the consensus of the Committee was to recommend that the Council explore hiring off-duty Montgomery County Police officers for an 8-hour shift from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday. Since neighboring communities are paying their off-duty officers between \$71-\$73 per hour, an 8-hour shift would result in an annual cost of between \$147,680 and \$151,840 for the Village. The Council will decide on these issues at its next meeting on February 13.

The Committee then discussed adding security signage and cameras. Mr. Mansfield mentioned that the managers are soliciting proposals to add exterior cameras to the red house at 4608 North Park Avenue, which will cover a portion of the street and the bus stop by 4620 North Park. If the Council wants to cover the community with cameras, the most feasible way would be to place them on the exterior of the buildings, particularly with regard to connecting to existing power sources that are not available on the street. This would create the need for the Village to form a partnership with all of the buildings.

No further actions were taken by the Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Rose White".

Melanie Rose White
Chair, Public Safety Committee