Village of Holmen
Law Enforcement Committee
August 3, 2021

The meeting of the Holmen Law Enforcement Committee was held Tuesday August 3, 2021, in the Village Hall.

Chair Rodney Stanek called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Present at the meeting: Committee members Rodney Stanek, Dawn Kulcinski and Doug Jorstad arriving later in the meeting. Also in attendance were President Patrick Barlow, Administrator Scott Heinig and Chief Shane Collins. Residents Karen Eckert and Pam Johnson were present.

Approval of Minutes  Dawn Kulcinski and Rodney Stanek motioned to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2021 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment  None

Discussion on Potential Ordinance to Control Puppy & Kitten Sales  Chair Rodney Stanek move this item to the front of the meeting. Administrator Heinig advised this would be a proposed ordinance brought to us by Karen Eckert on limiting sales of puppies and kittens also known as puppy mills in the Village of Holmen. Scott advised we have none in the Village of Holmen now and did not think this would happen in Holmen. Scott advised Karen wanted to be proactive and share an ordinance with us on puppy mills.

Karen Eckert gave a detailed statement which I have attached to these minutes.

Present Monthly Activity  The Committee reviewed all monthly activity.

Present Monthly Claims  The Committee reviewed monthly claims.

Municipal Court Update  No meeting.

Discussion of 2022 Budget Items  Collins advised the following would be for the capital budget:
- Server upgrade along with firewall upgrade for all Village departments with the cost of $17,441.00
- County upgrade to the CAD/Mobile with the cost of $1000.00 per officer for a total of $13,000.00
- upgrade 13 Motorola hand held radios for the officers with the cost of $28,000.00
- Replace 5 AED's with the cost of $6905.00
- Replace 12 Rifles with cost of $16,000.00
- Add a new patrol vehicle and outfitted with the cost of $64,000.00
- Total capital is $145,346.00

Collins advised for 2022 if needed to save the Department is sitting in a position to delete the patrol vehicle. This would be a savings of $64,000.00 and the capital budget would be $81,346.00

The following are additional items the department would like to purchase for 2022:
- 9 Halligan bars for $2000.00
- W-Tool for $1700.00
- Mags for AR and Glock's, and a Sandbag for $370.00
- Storage locker for garage area (unknown price but Collins advised he didn't think it would be over $500.00)

Collins also advised he will have an increase in current fees which are the following:
- 1 Crimefighter with an increase of $500.00
- Central Squele with an increase of $1595.00

Heinig advised Committee members the budget items requested looks like they will work for this years budget but knows if he needed to have a $64,000.00 in savings he would be able to take the vehicle out.

President Barlow asked about hiring of new officers. Heinig advised there would be no hires this year but with the referendum for 2022 there could be up to three officers hired.

Adjourn Dawn Kulcinski and Doug Jorstad motioned to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting ended 6:40pm.

Minutes By Shane Collins, Chief of Police
Council Members,
Thank you for taking up this important issue. My name is Karen, a lifelong Wisconsinite, and volunteer for the Humane Society of the United States. I currently reside in Holmen and am joining to today in support of this ordinance.

The HSUS is the Nation’s Largest and Most effective Animal Protection Organization. Puppy Mills and their connection to pet stores that rely on the outdated business model of pushing puppies in the interest of profit is an issue we are adamant on ending.

This ordinance will protect consumers from being duped into supporting the cruel puppy mill industry and ending up with a sick and behaviorally challenged pet store puppy. We have conducted numerous hidden camera investigations that consistently reveal that pet stores supply unsuspecting consumers with puppies from inhumane commercial breeders, despite claims that they would never obtain dogs from puppy mills. Even if pet stores wanted to source from responsible breeders, they would not be able to because they do not sell to pet stores.

Passing a humane pet store ordinance generates awareness about the puppy mill to pet store supply chain, encourages adoption of homeless animals, and if a consumer is set on a specific breed, it will not limit them from doing but will encourage them to take the time to research their options. Pet stores that sell puppies often rely on consumers to make an impulse buy. They prey off emotions and will try every which way (including financing) to have the consumer leave the store, puppy in hand.

We receive a constant stream of complaints from consumers, including those in Wisconsin, who have spent thousands of dollars in veterinary bills caring for their sick pet store puppy. One complainant in Wisconsin reportedly spent $10,000 caring for her pet store puppy. Pet store puppies are likely to be sick because they are born into deplorable conditions, taken from their mothers very early on, are placed on semi-trucks in confined cages with other vulnerable and sick puppies, and are shipped to faraway pet stores where they are treated as nothing more than products.

Holmen is pet loving community. This community is still waiting on a much needed off leash dog park. As more Americans learn about puppy mills local lawmakers are taking notice; over 350 local ordinances have been enacted through grassroots efforts by people who care and want to do something meaningful where they live.

Passing this ordinance will protect your community from stores with this inhumane model from moving into Holmen while celebrating humane businesses already operating in the community and community values. In closing, I urge the Village of Holmen to pass a humane pet store ordinance to better protect consumers and animals.