



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
www.newrichmondwi.gov

**JUNE 22, 2018**

**TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:**

**Scottie Ard  
Jim Jackson  
Ron Volkert**

**There will be a meeting of the Public Safety Committee on Wednesday, June 27, 2018, at 4:30 p.m. in the ED Lab at the Civic Center, 156 East First Street, New Richmond, WI.**

**Agenda:**

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Adoption of Agenda**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes from the previous meeting on February 22, 2018**
- 4. Election of Chairman**
- 5. Collaboration with St. Croix County on K-9 Agility Equipment & Location**
- 6. Squad Car Camera Discussion**
- 7. Less Lethal Options/Transition**
- 8. Park Art Fair Update**
- 9. Fun Fest Update & K-9 Safety**
- 10. Car Wash Code Information**
- 11. School Resource Officer Update**
- 12. National Night Out**
- 13. Communications and Miscellaneous**
- 14. Adjournment**

**Mike Darrow  
City Administrator**

**Copies:**

**Fred Horne  
Jim VanderWyst  
Northwest Community Communications  
Matt Melby**

**Craig Yehlik  
The News  
City of New Richmond Website**

A majority of the members of the New Richmond City Council may be present at the above meeting. Pursuant to State ex rel. Badke v. Greendale Village Board, 173 Wis. 2d 553, 494 N.W. 2<sup>nd</sup> 408(1993) such attendance may be considered a meeting of the City Council and must be notices as such, although the Council will not take action at this meeting.

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 22, 2018

Members Present: Scottie Ard, Ron Volkert and Jim Jackson

Others Present: Chief Craig Yehlik and Jeanne Bergman

Scottie Ard called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Jim Jackson moved to adopt the agenda; exchanging Items 6 and 4 on the agenda, seconded by Ron Volkert and carried.

Jim Jackson moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting of December 21, 2017, seconded by Ron Volkert and carried.

### **X-tinguish FST**

Chief Yehlik explained a new cutting-age fire suppression tool. This tool is available as a single room canister or a 5,000 sq. ft. home unit that extinguishes fires by emitting a mixture of aerosols. These aerosols are non-conductive, non-corrosive and non-harmful to humans. The aerosol interacts with the fire causing a chemical reaction not allowing it to burn. The one-time home unit sells for \$599 and the canister is approximately \$125. The home unit comes with a shelf life of 15 years, a battery life of 5 years, is good to -65 degrees below zero and auto deploys at 1,000 degrees. Mike Darrow has authorized Chief Yehlik to purchase what he needs for the squad cars. The City will be looking into carrying these units in other City vehicles and at the airport.

### **Lexipol Update**

The New Richmond Police Department currently uses Lexipol to create and maintain departmental policies. Chief Yehlik gave a demonstration of the site and reviewed its features. Some of those features include:

- Daily training bulletins
- Notification of grammatical corrections and updates
- Side-by-side comparison of current polices/State Statutes and suggested changes
- Daily tips
- Customized policy changes specific to the New Richmond Police Department (NRPD)
- One click notification to officers on policy changes
- Verification from officers that policy changes have been read
- Access to manuals, policies and procedures from squad cars

The website saves time, resulting in departmental cost savings and reduces liability to the City. The current cost of the annual membership is \$3,900 and includes eight hours of training. Chief Yehlik stated we are eligible to receive a 5% discount off all future membership fees. No action taken.

### **HR218 Follow-Up**

Some New Richmond Police Department (NRPD) retirees have expressed an interest in obtaining the HR218 conceal and carry permit which is available to those in good standing. The current

NRPD policy has always indicated this is an option but previous administration had not offered this to our retirees. The policy does not create any additional liability or costs to the City.

City Attorney Nick Vivian has reviewed and agreed the HR218 policy is sufficient and meets State Statute but recommended a few language changes. These changes will allow the HR218 policy to be consistent with the NRPD Code of Conduct. Chief Yehlik reviewed the policy noting the language changes and the costs and responsibilities of the instructors and participants. Jim Jackson moved to proceed with the HR218 policy as presented, seconded by Ron Volkert and carried.

**Communications and Miscellaneous**

Officer Yehlik reported the K-9 has been named Storm. Training for the dog and handler will begin March 3 and the K-9 squad car will be picked up on February 23.

The police department is having trouble getting tech support for the squad cars cameras. The department will be looking at updating and adding to their camera and audio inventory in 2019.

Ron Volkert moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jim Jackson and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Minutes by Jeanne Bergman



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
www.newrichmondwi.gov

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Craig Yehlik, Chief of Police  
**DATE:** June 28, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** K-9 Agility equipment

---

### Background

As you are all aware the NRPD has recently deployed a K-9 (Storm) within our ranks. Part of Storm and Officer Chevrier's success will be ongoing agility training to keep the dog in shape and able to perform the tasks required of such a dog. The St. Croix County K-9 Team used to use land behind National Refund and Marketing where they had an agility training course where Deputies could stop, exercise their dogs and work on tracking, finding hidden objects and people to keep the dog engaged and ready for work and trials. A few years ago that equipment was vandalized so it was moved to Hudson, near the government center.

With NRPD having our own dog, it is not convenient for our handler to go to Hudson any time she needs to train. It is not always conducive to have the Sheriff's Department K-9 team's drive to Hudson either. Other benefits of having two training facilities in St. Croix County is subjecting the dogs to various areas to keep the dogs from getting too familiar with the set up and smells etc.

### Proposal

The New Richmond Police Department, in collaboration with the St. Croix County K-9 teams, would jointly purchase the materials to build the agility equipment for the K-9. We would solicit the New Richmond High School students in the construction class to build the apparatus's. We would propose utilizing the green space that is city owned, between the police department and the New Richmond Business Center (JA Counter building). Any funds needed from New Richmond Police Department would come from the K-9 fund. St. Croix County has proposed a 75% - 25% split with New Richmond PD paying 25% of the \$1554.30 for materials which is approximately \$389.00.

**Action**

Approval of the land use to build the K-9 Agility course at the police department in cooperation with the St. Croix County Sheriff's Department K-9 team.



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
[www.newrichmondwi.gov](http://www.newrichmondwi.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Craig Yehlik, Chief of Police  
**DATE:** June 28, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** Squad Car Camera

---

### Background

The New Richmond Police Department incorporated squad car cameras in the mid 2000 to enhance transparency, reduce liability, officer accountability and officer safety.

Since that time New Richmond Police have utilized a company called Digital Alley. We started with a 500 series camera, replaced them approximately 3 years later with the 500 series and due to some technical difficulties they were again upgraded to a different 500 plus series, I believe at no charge. We have had those cameras in the squads since approximately 2010 or 2011 (going from memory). For the last three or four years we have been having trouble with the IO boxes and some of the camera systems failing and malfunctioning. They have been transferred in and out of squad cars as the cars have been replaced and they are getting very dated. Digital Alley is also struggling and not offering tech support like they have in the past.

Chief Yehlik was in discussion at an area meeting and learned that Barron County had many of the Digital Alley cameras in storage as they had removed them from their squad cars as they were obsolete. Chief Yehlik had offered to try and purchase the old cameras for parts but due to the age and no value they were given to NRPD to use for parts. Sgt. Jake Sather has been utilizing the parts, cables, IO boxes and camera's over the last two years and kept the systems running; however we are now out of replacement parts so any more breakdowns we would have to order new parts for an old system. We are no longer able to order rear cameras, as we just tried to put one in the K-9 vehicle. We have also been having technical difficulties with downloading and storage of videos.

### Action

Chief Yehlik would like to find out the Public Safety Committee's thoughts on continuing the in car camera systems programming to the future. Discontinuing the program all together or perhaps upgrading the systems to also include officer worn cameras/body cameras.

**Recommendation**

Staff would recommend continuing the in car camera systems, but if implemented go with a system that can phase in Body Worn Camera's in the future. PSC would direct police department staff to come back in the future with presentation, functions and costs of upgrade. Staff would also suggest working with City IT on coming up with a Cloud based storage system.



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
[www.newrichmondwi.gov](http://www.newrichmondwi.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Craig Yehlik, Chief of Police  
**DATE:** June 28, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** Less lethal options/transitions

---

### Background

The New Richmond Police Department implemented a patrol rifle program and has since outfitted most of the marked patrol cars, detective cars and soon the police K-9 vehicle with patrol rifles. With a precision shooting instrument such as the AR-15 available most officers are much more comfortable shooting this weapons system than a 12 gauge shotgun. In taking the recommendation of our fire arms instructors they have requested that we look at the pros and cons of continuing having Remington 12 Gauge pump shotguns in the squad cars or if they may be better used in another capacity such as turning them into a less lethal/bean bag round tool.

Chief Yehlik will present pros and cons of each scenario and cost estimates, which would either come from the 2018 firearm budget or the 2019 firearm budget.

This would be one more non-lethal tool to use in mental health situations to keep the officers and subjects in crisis safer.

### Action

If public safety is satisfied that this is a realistic, cost effective method of providing another level of safety and one more non-lethal tool to begin development of Policy and bring to full council for final approval.



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
[www.newrichmondwi.gov](http://www.newrichmondwi.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Craig Yehlik, Chief of Police  
**DATE:** June 28, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** Park Art Fair update

---

Chief Yehlik was asked by Public Safety Committee to give an update on Park Art Fair.



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
[www.newrichmondwi.gov](http://www.newrichmondwi.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Public Safety Committee

**FROM:** Craig Yehlik, Chief of Police

**DATE:** June 28, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Funfest updates and k-9 benefits

---

Chief Yehlik was asked by Public Safety Committee member to give an update on Fun Fest and also how K-9 Storm will be utilized to enhance safety at Fun Fest Grounds and give a public demonstration. Chief Yehlik will also discuss any miscellaneous updates on Fun Fest parade etc.



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
[www.newrichmondwi.gov](http://www.newrichmondwi.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Craig Yehlik, Chief of Police  
**DATE:** June 28, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** Car wash and car wash codes

---

### Background

Since the previous administration took over the New Richmond Police Department and upon moving into the old police department facilities located at City Hall Officers were instructed to wash all squad cars by hand in the garage bays. This practice has continued after moving to the 1443 Campus Drive location however we do not have access to an indoor location and have been utilizing the street shop, fire department and ambulance bays to wash our squad cars. As the department gets busier with calls we are evaluating ways to be more efficient and provide a cleaner, more professional image to the public. Officers that wash cars on duty in uniform usually are out of service for a half hour or more, are sweaty and have dirty uniforms when complete and have difficulty hearing the radio while washing the car. Also, when we purchase car wash items they seem to get used by other departments and then are not available for our use (ie brushes and soap). Bernards Northtown has been very generous in the past with washing the cars in their wash bay when the car is in for repairs or scheduled maintenance.

As we evaluated how to become more efficient the time taken to wash cars was evaluated and I reached out to Solum Car Wash. I was told they have an unlimited wash package and it is vehicle specific, so each car would need a package. They are also on limited hours and not available for auto wash during the overnight hours.

I also reached out to Steve Lewis who owns/operates the New Richmond Car Wash, south of Super America. He advised they do offer municipal deals and offer the basic \$7.00 car wash for \$4.00. The New Richmond Police Department would get a wash code that any officer could punch in 24/7 and have the car washed within minutes, no waiting in line and a tremendous time saver making our officers more

efficient, presentable and ready for service. The bill would be submitted monthly and the monies would come from the squad maintenance line item.

**Action**

Staff would recommend allowing officers to utilize the New Richmond Car Wash Code system at the price above to assist in maintaining the cleanliness of the squads exterior.



156 East First Street  
New Richmond, WI 54017  
Ph 715-246-4268 Fax 715-246-7129  
[www.newrichmondwi.gov](http://www.newrichmondwi.gov)

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Public Safety Committee  
**FROM:** Craig Yehlik, Chief of Police  
**DATE:** June 28, 2018  
**SUBJECT:** School Resource Officer Update

---

Chief Yehlik will provide an update on the appointment process for the School Resource Officer position and any new details that need to be shared reference the MOU, if any.