The Safety & Public Properties Committee met at City Hall on the above date and time.

Present: Chairman Russo, Councilman Pedicino, Councilman Pelunis

Also Present: Mayor Drucker, Traffic Engineer Ryan Gillespie, GPD, Assistant City Engineer Welch, Police Chief Viland, Assistant Fire Chief Shebeck, Mr. John Palovsky, Developer Echo Real Estate Services, and Secretary Donna Bond.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Motion by Councilman Pelunis, second by Councilman Pedicino to approve the minutes of May 14, 2014 as read and to amend the minutes per Police Chief Viland to add under the May Agenda Item #8, Bicycle Lanes, Mr. Michael Coburn is a resident of Hudson, Ohio and is employed at the Nestle Corporation in Solon.
Roll Call: Aye: Pelunis, Russo
Abstain: Pedicino
Motion Carried

REPORTS
1. Jail report – April 2014
Chief Viland stated the daily average population has slightly dropped for the last two months. Chief Viland said he checked other regional jail facilities across the county and they are also experiencing a decrease in the daily population. Chief said it could be a result of Cuyahoga County’s joint efforts with the City of Euclid and he will continue to monitor it and will keep the committee posted on any changes.

CORRESPONDENCE
2. Aurora Road Traffic Corridor Study
Assistant Traffic Engineer Ms. Welch stated the Engineering Department has received fees from GPD Group and they are under review. She said the Engineering Department will bring back something to the committee next month.

3. Starbucks drive thru
Ms. Welch stated the developer has proposed to reorient the striping in the parking lot for the Starbucks drive thru. She said they are proposing to install angled striping and put in a vertical delineator to have a Starbucks drive thru lane and have a bypass thru lane as separate lanes and still orient the parkway to have it going in one direction. Councilman Pelunis stated he likes the idea and asked if there will be ample room to pile snow or push snow with the delineators present. Ms. Welch replied the lane width for the drive thru lane is 10 feet, the pass thru lane is 10 feet, and the aisle way for the parking is 16 feet.

Mr. John Palovsky, Developer with Echo Realty Estate Services, said currently with the limited parking area the snow is moved and transported to a remote location, therefore with the proposed plan there will be more than enough room for snow removal. Councilman Pedicino asked if the handicap parking spaces will be affected. Mr. Palovsky replied they will not be eliminating handicap parking spaces.

Police Chief Viland stated the changes are temporary modifications that are subject to easy change in modifications if need be at a later date. Assistant Chief Shebeck stated the Fire Department has been
involved with the proposed plan from the beginning, and he feels the areas of concern have been addressed.
Chairman Russo thanked Echo Real Estate Services for their cooperation with a revised plan as this will help the surrounding businesses and tenants in the plaza and shows the customers how accommodating the owners of Starbucks and Echo Real Estate Services are willing to be to support their customer concerns. Chairman Russo also thanked the GPD Group for their professionalism and cooperation.

Motion by Councilman Pelunis, second by Councilman Pedicino to refer to the Planning Commission that the Safety Committee and the Safety Forces approve this on a safety level for further discussion.
Roll Call: Aye: Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
Nay: None Motion Carried

4. Online Submittal from Michael Coburn regarding Bicycle Lanes – Tabled May Meeting
   a.) Memo received from Chief Viland - Chief Viland said per his request the Planning Department provided him with a map showing the entire eastern portion of the City which will have dedicated bicycle lanes on the primary through streets such as Aurora, Liberty, Bainbridge, and Pettibone Road along with existing multi-purpose paths such as Aurora, Pettibone, and Liberty Road. Therefore, as part of the upcoming and completion of the Liberty Road reconstruction project, Mr. Coburn’s complain which was solely limited to his usage on Liberty Road, will be a designed thru bike lane that will be restricted to one bicycle and his complaint would become moot.

   b.) Memo received from Carol McConoughey – Chief Viland said he received a memo from Carol McConoughey stating the legislative history during the years of 2001 and 2002 explaining the city established a Bikeways Committee which consisted of experts and residents who were interested in bicycle paths, bicycle travel, bicycle maintenance and laws. The Bikeways Committee reviewed the ordinances as they are currently today, and signed off that at the time they were appropriate, therefore, there is no need to change legislation.

Chairman Russo stated he will forward the committees decision and all the correspondence received to Mr. Michael Coburn. Item removed.

5. Updates on Safety Town Project and Arthur Road Municipal Pool.
Mayor Drucker provided an update to the committee that she received from Mr. Rich Parker. Mayor Drucker said the log cabin safety town construction was completed on time as designed. She said this week was spent cleaning and putting together the new furniture into the classroom; the replacement stop light was installed and tested with both the lights and railroad crossings and are working properly. She said the walkway in front of the cabin for the safety town park is complete with the crosswalks. Mayor Drucker said as weather permits they are finishing up touch ups and painting and safety town will be ready for the beginning of Safety Town on June 16th.

She said the Arthur Road Pool project is moving along with the fencing removed, the laying of the new asphalt, and the cleaning up concrete from the old deck area. The parking lot is a great improvement and completed. The fencing will begin to be installed on June 16th and the plumbing is scheduled to be completed during the week. The Service Department has completed the grading and prepping of the east end of the property and will begin the seeding later in the week. The pool will open Monday, June 16th and these projects will be completed around the operations of the pool. A fresh coat of paint was applied to the pool shell, the planters, the front doors, and all the wood shutters around the building.

Mayor Drucker thanked the following employees and departments for all their help: City Electrician’s, Matt Haddon, and both the service and Engineering departments. Item removed.
6. Email received from Resident who resides at 33525 Linden Drive regarding a stop sign at the intersection of Linden Drive and Brookland Avenue.

In attendance at the meeting were multiple homeowners who reside on Linden Drive or in the area who expressed their concerns for the removal of the stop sign at the corner of Linden Drive and Brookland Drive and for allowing left turns from the northbound lane on S.O.M. Center Road onto Linden Drive.

1. Donna Ostberg, 33525 Linden Drive stated she had a petition dated from 1974 that has the resident’s signatures and they were granted a stop sign to be placed at the corner of Linden Drive and Brookland Drive. She believes the three way stop sign should not be removed because it protects the safety of the area due to the increased volume of traffic on the street and has been in place for so long, she believes the precedent has been set for its continued use. She also stated that there are numerous three way stop signs on Glenallen, as well as many other streets in Solon, and if the three way stop sign on Linden Drive and Brookland Drive is to be removed than the stops signs on Glenallen should also be removed. Ms. Ostberg also said the residents have major concerns for the proposed change to allow a left turn onto Linden Drive from S.O.M. Center Road because they feel motorists will look for a short cut and travel at a high rate of speed, thus, causing a greater concern for safety. She said with the development of Get Go Gas Station and the Market District Giant Eagle expansion the amount of cars has tremendously increased.

2. Paula Gould, 33728 Linden Drive said she has lived on this street all her life and she is concerned for the safety of pedestrians and children who play in the area. She stated she would feel more comfortable crossing the street if there was a stop sign at Linden Drive and Brookland Drive. Ms. Gould said over time she is seeing an increase in the number of people walking to the grocery store, more children are playing in the neighborhood, and more and more cars are traveling on Linden Drive. Ms. Gould said although there are always going to be changes she would like to keep the three way stop sign at Linden Drive and Brookland Drive.

3. Michael Olenik, 33619 Linden Drive said he has seen numerous vehicles travel through that stop sign without ever stopping, motorists are screaming at each other, some are even slamming on their brakes and he has even had to request that the police come out. He said he cannot stress enough how important it is to keep the three way stop sign and to please listen to the concerns that the residents have.

4. Norma Larson, 33924 Linden Drive said her concern is also during the school year when there is an even greater amount of traffic from students that are traveling through the ABC streets from all directions to get to the High School. She said she has tried to get a stop sign installed at Arbordale because the students travel a fast rate of speed. She again feels the stop sign will help to slow drivers down and would like to keep the three way stop sign at Linden Drive and Brookland Drive.

5. Maria Podojil, 33461 Linden Drive said her family just recently moved to Solon and she has a two year old daughter. She said she is always outside playing with her daughter and has seen many kids walk to and from school and she would like the stop sign to stay.

Chairman Russo explained to the residents that typically recommendations to either remove or to add stop signs and or traffic signals come about when construction projects occur. He stated the city does not go out on its own to add or remove stop signs or other traffic signals. The recommendations are then reviewed by the Engineering Department, the GPD Traffic Engineers, both Safety Forces, and it is based on their professional recommendations to proceed or to not proceed forward with the suggested changes. He stated safety is always a concern and warrants need to be met in order to put or take away traffic control devices.
Chief Viland supported Mr. Russo’s explanation to the resident’s, and Mr. Russo asked Mr. Viland to define cut thru because the residents have referred to Linden Drive as becoming a cut thru street. Mr. Viland replied in law enforcement it means to utilize someone’s private property to drive over private property to avoid a traffic sign or traffic signal. Mr. Viland said some people who refer to their street being used as a cut thru really mean the level of traffic that is occurring on their street has increased and it unwanted traffic. He said public streets are open for public travel and Linden Drive is a public street.

Ms. Keri Welch stated as part of the sewer replacement project the proposal is to straighten up the curb line at Brookland Drive and Linden Drive because a pre-planned road was never installed. She stated based on their findings of this intersection it meets the warrants to remove the existing stop sign.

Mr. Gillespie, Traffic Engineer GPD Group, explained what it means to have a traffic signal or stop sign that is warranted. Mr. Gillespie said based on his traffic studies and traffic counts in the area, there is not enough traffic volume or pedestrian traffic that warrants keeping the stop sign posted. He said the purpose of stop signs is to assign right of way on two intersecting streets not to be used as speed control measures.

Councilman Edward Kraus 32685 Stoneybrook Lane was in attendance and addressed the committee. Mr. Kraus said he is familiar with the area and has seen the traffic greatly increase on Linden Drive due to the expansion of Solon Village Plaza and will only continue to increase with the opening of Office Max. He expressed his concern for removing the no left turn onto Linden Drive from S.O.M. Center Road. He said it is safer for those residents on Linden Drive because safety comes first and stated warrants are not mandatory but are guidelines. Mr. Kraus said many times in the past that when there is a legitimate safety issue we have sided on safety and not the warrant. He said he believes the stop sign is necessary in this case.

Chairman Russo stated Linden Drive is a public street and you cannot restrict residents or non-residents from using it. He said the residents would have to make it a private road which would include maintenance, snow removal, and all other expenses that would be the responsibility of the homeowners. Mr. Russo stated that there is more pedestrian and motor vehicle traffic at both Inwood and at Roxbury then at Linden Drive and there is no stop sign present. After further discussion by residents Paula Gould and Donna Ostberg, Police Chief Viland stated there are many other stop signs in the City of Solon that were installed and are unwarranted which does support Ms. Ostberg’s concern. He said as city projects arise they are being reviewed and there have been unwarranted stop signs removed specifically in the ABC street area.

The committee members all agreed based on the expertise and recommendations of all the professionals involved the stop sign at the intersection of Linden Drive and Brookland Drive will be removed and the restricted no left turn on to Linden Drive from S.O.M. Center will be removed. Item removed from agenda.

POLICE AND FIRE ISSUES
7. Memo from Police Chief Viland requesting Legislation for Authorization to auction or dispose of obsolete, unneeded, or unfit property for municipal purposes, via GoDeals.com and PropertyRoom.com.
Chief Viland is requesting legislation for authorization to auction or dispose of property which has been determined to be unneeded, obsolete, or unfit for municipal purposes via internet at GovDeals.com for the following items: 2002 Ford Ranger Pick Up Truck VIN#aFTYR117A71942 Court Forfeiture, 2002 Trek Police Mountain Bike, Serial #WW1764826 with accessories, 2003 Trek Police Mountain Bike, Serial #WW0182504 with accessories. In addition, he is requesting authorization to auction via internet
at PropertyRoom.com twenty-three (23) items such as unclaimed found bicycles, and legacy 150 MHz police radios from the archaic LEERN statewide radio system.


Roll Call:       Aye:  Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
                 Nay:  None                     Motion Carried

Motion by Councilman Pelunis, second by Councilman Pedicino to prepare legislation to auction via internet at PropertyRoom.com for 23 items as listed in the manifest as well and permission if items do not sell they are able to be disposed of according to the law.

Roll Call:       Aye:  Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
                 Nay:  None                     Motion Carried

8. Memo from Assistant Fire Chief Shebeck requesting Legislation to approve the purchase of 16 sets of Firefighter Turnout Gear.
Assistant Chief Shebeck stated for the committee that 20 sets of replacement turnout gear has already been budgeted for, however, the Fire Chief is requesting legislation to approve the immediate purchase of 16 sets at a price of $1,675.00 per set. The discussion of freight charges were presented to Assistant Chief Shebeck and after discussing it further with the vendor Warren Fire Equipment he learned the freight charges are already included in the State Bid Term Pricing.

Motion by Councilman Pelunis second by Councilman Pedicino to prepare legislation approving the bid to purchase 16 sets of firefighter turnout gear from Warren Fire Equipment and to referral to Council with the clarification that there will be no additional charges for freight and to declare an emergency.

Roll Call:       Aye:  Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
                 Nay:  None                     Motion Carried

9. Memo received from Fire Chief Shaw regarding Fire Station 3 Screening.
Councilman Pelunis recapped for the committee this item was presented to the Planning Commission last night and there was a question regarding the spacing between the fencing and landscaping, however, the overall consensus was the planning commission approved of the proposed plan.

Assistant Chief Shebeck stated the plan is to use a combination of vinyl clad privacy fencing and Norway Spruce Trees as the previous attempts using landscaping screening has proven to be problematic as it relies on weather and is susceptible to insects and other unknown conditions. He stated because this is an alteration to the property he is requesting a referral to the Finance Committee for funding purposes as this was not a budgeted item. He said Mr. Frankland suggested referring this phase of the project first to get the approval from the Finance Committee for the consideration of funding and then return to the Planning Commission with a formal request.

Motion by Councilman Pelunis, second by Councilman Pedicino to send a referral to the Finance Committee for the consideration for funding purposes only.

Roll Call:       Aye:  Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
                 Nay:  None                     Motion Carried

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT
Chief Viland stated due to the end of the school year there was a thirty minute period of time at the intersection of S.O.M. Center Road and Inwood where vehicles turning left northbound on S.O.M Center Road as well as vehicles coming straight across from Portz Parking going into Inwood was
causing such a backup that those traveling Northbound and Southbound on S.O.M. Center Road could not proceed thru the intersection and his department had to assign people to hand direct traffic. He said this issue will be sent to the Traffic Task Force Committee prior to the 2014-2015 school year for alternative solutions once the Traffic Signalization Project is underway.

Chief Viland said there were a couple individual neighborhoods that had repeated violations by a resident where our department has contacted those violators either to educate them or to cite them as necessary. He said during the water main break on Solon Road that occurred traffic utilized a detour thru Timberlane, Brushwood, and Churchill to avoid the water main break. He also had officers there to make sure motorists were in compliance of the speed and stop sign laws. Chief Viland said the first OVI Checkpoint of 2014 was conducted on Saturday, May 24, 2014 on S.R. 43 in front of 34501 S.R. 43 in both directions. He said there were close to 1100 vehicles that drove through the checkpoint, 925 vehicles were checked, 15 vehicles were diverted for further checking/testing, 4 citations were issued for Driving under Suspension, 2 citations were issued for Open Container in a Motor Vehicle, and there were no OVI arrests. Chief Viland said the pay for the officers will be reimbursed to the City through the Cuyahoga County OVI Task Force Funds.

Chief Viland acknowledged the fact that the residents from Linden Drive were still attendance, and he shared his thoughts to them to reassure them that there are recommendations made to protect people and there is no one police officer or one city official who would willingly put them or anyone in danger or harm them. He said recommendations are made to improve people’s safety such as when the Ohio Department of Transportation came and put the guardrails up and down the City’s Median Strip on US 422 there were many complaints from residents about how intrusive or unattractive they were, however, over the last four years those guardrails have saved multiple lives. He said recently a motorist traveled across the median and hit the back of the guardrail which prevented them from traveling into oncoming traffic. He again reassured the residents present that making sure signs, signals and traffic control devices are to save people and protect property.

ENGINEERING

11. Memo presented by Keri Welch on behalf of Peggy Weil-Dorfman regarding RTA Bus Shelter in Industrial District.
Ms. Welch said RTA made a request to install a bus shelter at the northwest corner of Aurora and Harper Roads. RTA is also requesting that the City of Solon install a 10 x 12 feet concrete pad and a sidewalk to the corner. Ms. Welch said the city is currently working on the signalization project and the foundations for the signals have already been installed, therefore, if the City would like to move forward there will need to be modifications to the foundations that are in place.

After further discussion, Chief Viland asked if RTA will ease the flag stop service along Aurora Road and only stop at the proposed bus shelter. Item tabled for Ms. Weil-Dorfman’s input.

Motion by Councilman Pelunis, second by Councilman Pedicino to table the RTA Bus Shelter Agenda Item. 
Roll Call: Aye: Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
Nay: None
Motion Carried

12. Memo received regarding Liberty Ford Sewer Alteration Agreement.
Assistant Traffic Engineer Welch stated Liberty Ford is moving forward with the proposed building expansion at 32811 Aurora Road and in doing so they will need to relocate a 60” storm sewer. The proposed building expansion is in conflict with the easement. She said Liberty Ford has proposed to relocate the storm sewer, vacate the existing easement and dedicate a new easement for the relocation. She said the City Law Director, the Engineering Department, and Liberty Ford have all worked on the
Sewer Alteration Agreement for the sewer alteration. She said Liberty Ford will assume all costs associated with the construction of the relocation. She said once the project is complete and approved by the City they will dedicate it the City of Solon for maintenance.

Motion by Councilman Pedicino, second by Councilman Pelunis, to prepare legislation authorizing the Mayor to enter into the Sewer Alteration Agreement for the storm sewer relocation with Liberty Ford.

Roll Call: Aye: Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
Nay: None Motion Carried


Ms. Welch stated the City Wide Roof Evaluation Project is in the process of completing the design for Water Reclamation where four buildings will be getting new roofs, and bids will go out at the end of the month. She said the Village of Glenwillow is moving forward with their project that was postponed from last year. It is a detour that will affect residents of Solon as the eastbound direction lane will be restricted, therefore, only westbound traffic will be permitted in the area of the project on Pettibone Road. The project will start on June 13, 2014 and will run for 65 days.

Ms. Welch stated the City Wide Traffic Signal Project has begun and they will be working on S.O.M. Center Road and Solon Road on Friday, June 13th and Saturday, June 14, 2014, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. doing utility investigations within this intersection. She said in the next coming weeks new poles will be delivered. She said the contractor has proposed to do a leap-frogging install which is where one crew unloads the poles and another crew is right behind them to install and set them in place as they move down S.O.M. Center Road.

Ms. Welch reminded the committee that there are three signals in the City of Solon that are unwarranted and will be taken down and refurbished for another location in the near future. The following signals will be removed: Bainbridge Road and Kruse Drive, Aurora Road and Hawthorne Parkway, and Aurora Road and Old South Miles Road.

Chairman Russo said the reason the traffic signals are being removed is because The Ohio Department of Transportation will not fund unwarranted traffic signals as part of this project, therefore, if they are not removed the City of Solon could lose a portion of the funding and 80 percent of the Traffic Signalization Project is funded by ODOT.

Motion by Councilman Pelunis, second by Councilman Pedicino to adjourn the Safety and Public Properties Meeting.

Roll Call: Aye: Pedicino, Pelunis, Russo
Nay: None Motion Carried

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Bond, Secretary