

**Amberley Village Council  
Police/Fire Committee –Minutes  
June 23, 2014**

Attendees

Committee members: Peg Conway, Ed Hattenbach, Rich Bardach; Lt. Brian Blum, Scot Lahrmer, Tom Muething, Chief Rich Wallace, Kathy Harcourt, Bill Doering

Prior Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of May 6, 2014, were approved as submitted.

Silverton Dispatch Agreement

Scot Lahrmer reported that Silverton has decided to eliminate its police department and contract with Hamilton County Sheriff's Department for these services, likely to be effective July 31. Silverton did not plan to move their dispatch from Amberley Village as part of this transition, but concerns have arisen regarding Amberley's capacity to continue effectively providing these services under the new arrangement. Lt. Blum said that the level of staffing and degree of patrolling that will be provided in Silverton would necessitate that Amberley add a third dispatcher, and then costs would exceed revenue. He explained that the County operates dispatch with specialized roles for radio, phone and queries, whereas Amberley dispatchers field all types of calls. Differences in record keeping systems and radio frequencies are also of concern.

The dispatch agreement calls for six months' notice to end the contract before December 31, 2015, but through meetings between Amberley and Silverton it has been mutually agreed that the contract could be terminated without penalty on either side as of July 31. A letter to this effect has been received from Tom Carroll, Silverton Village Manager.

The Village will lose \$85,000 per year in revenue from this agreement. Annual expenses for Silverton dispatch are \$30,000 to \$40,000. The Chief said he expects to maintain the part-time dispatchers but hours will be reduced.

Ed Hattenbach moved to authorize the Village Manager to execute and agreement to terminate the dispatch contract with Silverton. Seconded by Rich Bardach, it passed unanimously.

New Business

Several Council members expressed compliments to the Police Department on the bike safety fair which had been held the day before. The Chief acknowledged the work of Officers Alt and Fritsch in organizing it. More than 100 children attended once again. Children's Hospital will donate the helmets next year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Peg Conway, Chair