

**CITY OF LACONIA - CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Government Operations & Ordinances**  
**September 9, 2019**  
**6:00 P.M.**

9/9/2019 - Minutes

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bownes called the meeting to order at the above date and time.

**2. RECORDING SECRETARY**

Cheryl Hebert, City Clerk

**3. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Bownes noted that both himself and Councilor Cheney were present and a quorum has been established.

Councilor Hosmer arrived to the meeting at 6:09 pm.

**4. STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

Scott Myers, City Manager

Glenn Smith, Finance Director

**5. GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ORDINANCES (Bownes, Hosmer, Cheney)**

**6. Scenic Road Motorcycle Noise Petition**

**6.A. Petition for Motorcycle Noise Reduction on Scenic Road**

Councilor Bownes stated this was sent to the Council and then referred to the Government Operations and Ordinances Committee. Councilor Bownes expressed his concern with this as Laconia has been home to Motorcycle Week.

Councilor Cheney explained he does not think this item just refers to Motorcycle Week. Councilor Cheney made it known that only a few people showed up to represent a much larger group at his request.

City Manager Myers spoke in regards to this item. Chief Canfield from the Laconia Police Department and Director Wes Anderson from Public Works are present at the request of the City Manager. City Manager Myers did state that it is not legal to pull a motorcycle over due to noise only. Also discussed was limiting motorcycles to certain roads, the training and the added equipment that would be needed to test for noise.

Chief Canfield spoke in regards to the enforcement issue with noise. The Chief spoke about adding some signage on Watson and Scenic Roads.

Councilor Bownes opened the meeting up to the public:

Pete Winner, 616 Scenic Road - Expressed his concern with the safety and noise levels throughout the entire summer, not just during Motorcycle Week. There are many pedestrians on that road. Mr. Winner has noticed many motorcyclists driving at unsafe speeds as well as doing burnouts and

wheelies.

DPW Director Anderson stated the speed limit is 30 MPH. At the Watson/Scenic intersection, there is signage regarding a dangerous curve sign with a 25 MPH sign.

Chief Canfield stated electronic speed limit signs work when they are posted sporadically with a police officer near the sign for enforcement.

Councilor Hosmer likes the idea of the electronic speed limit signs and feels it may remind people how fast they are going.

Councilor Cheney would like to see more enforcement in this area, especially at night.

City Manager Myers asked about paintings on the road.

DPW Director Anderson stated paint on the road could be dangerous for motorcycles especially when the roads are wet.

Pete Winner did state that police presence in the past has made a difference.

Dave Tetreault, 618 Scenic Road - Stated that Scenic Road has changed over the past 10-15 years, being more residential.

Joyce Polasky - 616 Scenic Road - Expressed her concern with graffiti on the road and maybe using camera's.

Councilor Cheney expressed his appreciation to the public that came in tonight to be heard. He also has confidence in the Chief of Police to get more patrol up there.

Councilor Bownes asked if there is any prohibition on private properties using their own cameras. City Manager Myers is not sure of that answer. The City does have some camera's and have purchased some in the past at about \$12,000 to \$15,000.

City Manager Myers will take the suggestions presented tonight, such as signage, camera's, and patrols and report back to the Council with his findings.

Councilor Cheney agrees with City Manager Myers with presenting his findings to the Council, Councilor Hosmer agrees.

## **7. Any other business that may come before the Council**

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Committee and hearing no objection, Chairman Bownes adjourned the meeting at 6:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted

David Bownes, Chair