

Police Chief's Corner

I feel the need to discuss the recently passed legislative House Bill 3653. It is called a 'Police Reform Bill.' The bill is 732 pages long and was introduced and passed in the middle of the night during a lame-duck session. Being a veteran police officer, it will be very easy for you to quit reading right now because I am 'obviously' partial and 'tainted' and will only tell you bad things about police reform. Don't run away too soon. I believe 'police reform' is overdue in many areas, and any legislation that enhances our ability to serve and protect in the utmost professional manner is welcome. We should have access to the resources, training, and equipment necessary for us to do our job in the safest and most respectful manner. That, I believe, is the desire of a great majority of our communities.

Most importantly, people who are a lot smarter than I am, have written multiple letters to legislators outlining the flaws of HB3653 that will seriously affect public safety. The interpretation of certain sections handcuffs the police instead of the criminals.

Some examples are: 1) A subject decides to sit on your porch, peeks in your window, or disrupts your cookout. The police cannot remove them unless there is an obvious and overt criminal threat. The same applies to businesses. 2) A suspect in custody is to be allowed access to his cell phone. Cell phones are pretty important pieces of evidence in all kinds of criminal activity, yet we should allow them to have access and very likely alter incriminating information?? Or worse yet, contact their victim! 3) Police Officers will not be allowed to review body camera footage until after the report is written. (Isn't the reason you have a camera to review the incident and make sure you got it right?) 4) Failing to appear in court is no longer considered an attempt to 'evade' prosecution.

Usually, when you get arrested and are given a court date, there is an expectation that you're supposed to be there.

5) when a person cuts off the ankle monitor designed to keep them from violating the

court's orders, they have 48 hours before it is considered an 'escape from custody'...so I guess as long as you put it back on after 47 hours, you're good to go!

6) Numerous new limitations on the court's ability to hold offenders will not give victims a very secure feeling. These are short snapshots of a very large picture that our legislators need to address in upcoming sessions. While we encourage the Governor to veto this bill, we do not expect that he will.

Language restricting the use of force in arrest, well beyond what is accepted as necessary to apprehend a criminal, now gives that criminal the ability to fight and flee without fear of apprehension or prosecution. You could interpret it to say a police officer should not stop a man with a gun from going into a school until he has actually shoots somebody. Sounds extreme. But unless the legal language is cleaned up, that Officer could be charged criminally for stopping the man with the gun.

The current HB3653 is also very ambiguous in areas

that will make it difficult for police officers and prosecutors to enforce current statutes. Courts are specific in language and how it affects police actions and prosecution.

For example, every police officer knows what 'great bodily harm' is and what the court accepts as a threat of 'great bodily harm'. The bill refers to 'serious harm' in a court of law, leaving some very critical decisions wide open for debate. Sounds petty and illogical. In a court of law, it is a determination with no consensus, which means the same thing is right and wrong depending solely on the point of view. Legal language needs to be specific and applicable to our judicial system.

I have sat in on briefings of this bill with the Illinois Chiefs Association and read the opinions from several States Attorneys. I encourage you to check out ilchiefs.org for a more detailed explanation of HB3653. Executive Director Ed Wojcicki and Kane County States Attorney Jamie Mosser do a much better job explaining the pitfalls of this bill than I do.

Finally, this is not about Us versus Them. We are not blind to the unacceptable police behavior we've seen in the last year. Police Officers mirror society with every race, gender, orientation, and political belief that our country has. Good and bad.

The bill contains positive language on training mandates and gives commanders better ability to identify and address problem officers. We can move forward. Let's not do it at the price of community safety, and let's not make it so overbearing and restrictive that Officers can't do their jobs. We want to encourage good people of all cultures to become police officers of the future. This type of legislation makes it very difficult to recruit that future.

Be Safe, Be Courteous and Be Smart.

Monee Police Chief Scott Koerner

Important Information

VILLAGE OF MONEE
5130 W. Court St. Monee, IL 60449
Phone: 708-534-8301
Fax: 708-534-0694
www.VillageofMonee.org
Population of Monee: 5,148
Mayor: Jim Popp
Village Clerk: Doneshia Smith-Codjoe
Village Deputy Clerk: Michelle Powell
Village Treasurer: Norbert Snow
Village Trustees
Janet Blue Anthony Raczek
Heidi Gonzalez Mike Wilson
Doug Horne Scott Youdris
Village Hall Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Village Board Meetings typically meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 pm at the Monee Village Hall (5130 W. Court St.).
Next Village Board Meeting: December 9
Board meetings are open to the public and can be viewed on YouTube by going through our website.
2020 Holiday Closures
December 24th & 25th, Christmas
www.VillageofMonee.org

Important Phone Numbers
Monee Township708-534-6020
26121 Egyptian Trail, Monee

Monee Township Assessor . .708-534-6023
46 Town Center Road, University Park
Monee Post Office708-534-8057
5410 W. Main St. Monee
Peotone & Monee Library . . .708-258-3436
515 N. First Street, Peotone
Crete-Monee 201-U
School District Administration708-367-8300
www.cm201u.org
Will County Court Questions.815-727-8592
Will County Land Use.815-727-8631
Will County Health Dept. . . .708-534-5777
J.U.L.I.E. (811 before you dig)800-892-0123
Allied Waste/Republic.708-385-8252
Comcast800-581-3734
AT&T888-887-5328
Will County Animal Control . .815-462-5633

Typographical Errors
Our staff has made every effort to prepare this newsletter as accurately as possible; however, errors can occur. Circumstances may require that adjustments be made to programs, fees, schedules, etc. All typographical and printing errors are subject to corrections.

Building Services & Code Compliance

Please do not deposit snow or ice on any public highway, street, or dedicated right of way. No person, firm, corporation, or institution, public or private, shall plow or remove or cause to be plowed or removed ice or snow from any shopping center, parking lot, commercial or institutional service area or driveway, or any other public or private service area or driveway and deposit such ice or snow on a public highway or dedicated right-of-way, or along the shoulder or edge of a public highway or dedicated right-of-way. This said prohibition shall be applicable to a residential driveway or sidewalk. (Ord. 1160, 11-14-2001)

Code Compliance Officers will continue working with residents to attain compliance in regards to Ordinance 1908. This Ordinance states that all garbage, rubbish, or recycling containers shall be stored behind a privacy fence OR out of view from public

areas. If you do receive a notice and need additional clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out to our code compliance department.

Please do not forget if you are selling your home or commercial property – a resale inspection for Occupancy IS REQUIRED. We are providing virtual inspections with respect to health risk concerns of both our residents and staff.

In addition, should you choose to rent your residential property, you must be licensed as the landlord, and the property MUST obtain a current occupancy permit before a tenant occupies.

If you have any questions regarding Inspections, Home Repairs, Improvements, Building Structures, Code Compliance, or need a Building Permit, please call us between 8a-4p at 708/534-8303 or email us at buildingservices@villageofmonee.org

Only Rain Down the Drain

Understanding where storm sewer pollution comes from and what you can do to help our community have a better environment.

When the rain or water hits hard surfaces like pavement, it creates stormwater run-off. The run-off picks up lots of nasty pollution as it is carried directly through the gutters and drains out to the rivers, streams, and lakes, making them toxic and unsafe for people and animals. The pollution is typically not treated or removed from the water on its journey, so it's up to us to keep it clean and fresh from the start. Here are some things we can all do to minimize stormwater pollution and keep our community looking and feeling great.

Step 1: Maintain your car or truck. Never dump any chemicals from these vehicles down a storm drain. Always recycle used oil, antifreeze, and other fluids. Fixing leaks on your vehicle will minimize run-off during rain or watering events.

Step 2: Wash your vehicle at a commercial car wash rather than in the street or your driveway. These types of facilities typically will contain storm or sanitary basins designed to minimize chemical run-off. If you prefer to wash at home, do so in a grassy area so soaps and cleaners can collect locally on-site and not down a storm drain.

Step 3: Drive less. Leave your car at home at least one day each week and take a bus, carpool, or bike to work. Combine errands when you drive. Get your vehicle emissions system checked. Buy a low emissions vehicle to reduce pollutants.

Step 4: Cut down on fertilizers, pesticides, and

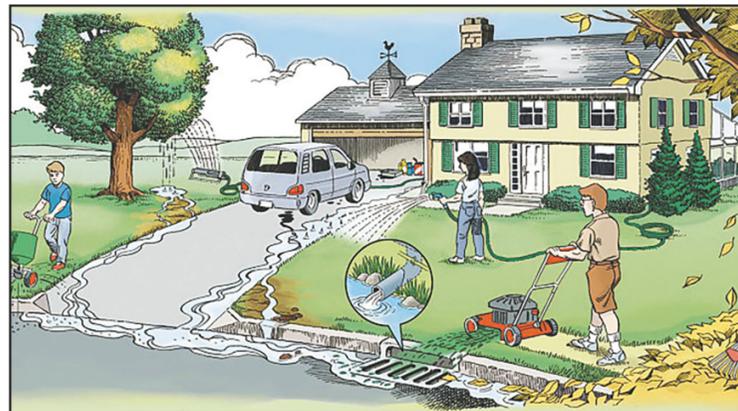
herbicides. If you use these chemicals, follow the label directions and use them sparingly. Don't fertilize before a rainstorm. Consider using an organic type fertilizer — compost or mulch lawn clippings. Preserve existing trees or plant new ones — trees hold rainfall and help manage stormwater.

Step 5: Pick up after your pets. Scoop your dog's poop and properly dispose of it.

Step 6: Reduce impervious surfaces at home and increase the vegetated land cover on your property. Reduce your rooftop run-off by directing your gutter downspouts to vegetated areas and not directly into the storm drain on your street. For your driveway and patios, consider putting in an impermeable paving brick or patterns of cement and brick that allow rainwater to filter through it.

If each of us can make some small adjustments in our daily routines now, together, we can ensure our water & environment stay clean and healthy for generations to come.

For more information, please visit www.villageofmonee.org.



Upcoming Events

MONEE COMMUNITY ANNUAL GIANT EASTER EGG HUNT!
Saturday, April 3
Firemen's Park Football Field

Ages 0-4 yrs old with parent 10:00 am	Ages 9-12 yrs old (no parents) 10:30 am
Ages 5-8 yrs old (no parents) 10:15 am	Ages 13 and up (no parents) 10:15 am

FARMERS MARKET VENDORS Wanted

WE NEED FARMER MARKET VENDORS!!
Help Us Spread The Word: We are looking for all sorts of food, arts, crafts, specialty items, etc.
Monee is very excited about this event during the Spring and Summer! Really Excited!!
Go to our Website, under Parks & Recreation to find all the information for our Farmers Market.
Call 708-534-8302 or email DKroll@villageofmonee.org

Senior Luncheon

Wednesday, March 17th 12pm-1pm

Fee: \$5 per person

Calling all Monee residents 55+ years young!!! Join us for our Senior lunch drive thru! Please register by March 12th. Let us know of any food allergies. When signing up please remember to fill out the full form.

Lunch will be: Ham sandwich, chicken salad, fruit and dessert.
Pull up on the West Side of the Park Building.
Register at the Village Hall



5218 W. Court Street
Monee IL, 60449



VIRTUAL PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE MONEE PARKS & RECREATION COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

We are excited to have you join us as Farnsworth Group presents an overview of the Parks & Recreation Comprehensive Plan developed for the Village of Monee and answers public questions.

Thursday, March 4, 2021
6:30pm - 7:30pm

Join online with video:
<https://zoom.us/j/93809750392>

Call in: (312) 626-6799, Meeting ID: 938 0975 0392