

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 5, 2024

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, February 5, 2024, at 7 p.m. Present were Chairman Heiland, Commissioners Baile, Berlingo, Brown, and Elksnis. Also present were Township Manager Ledley, Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Captain Wysocki, Township Engineer Bortner, Zoning Officer Smith, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Heiland announced that an executive session was held on January 15, 2024, following the Board of Commissioners meeting. Additionally, he announced that there will be an executive session this evening following the Public Works Committee meeting to discuss personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the January 2, 2024, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

DISCUSS SHOOTING RANGES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY: Police Chief Hettinger reported that he has received feedback from our solicitor regarding the ordinance. The solicitor has examined the ordinance of our neighboring municipality and agrees that it should be treated as a conditional use by designation, and we will need to be specific concerning the wording. Progress is underway on drafting the ordinance, and it will be presented to the Committee for review once finalized.

DISCUSS THE ANNUAL MEMORIAL DAY PARADE: Police Chief Hettinger informed the Committee that they have received a request dated January 5, 2024, from the Allied Veterans Council of Hanover. The request is to hold their annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, 2024. Chief Hettinger confirmed that the request is the same as those of previous years and does not raise any concerns. The Committee agreed and recommended adding the request to the agenda of the upcoming Board of Commissioners meeting.

DISCUSS THE STRENGTH UNITED MSA 5K RACE: Police Chief Hettinger informed the Committee of a request received on January 8, 2024, from Strength United CrossFit. They are seeking permission to conduct their 2nd annual 5K fundraiser, scheduled for March 23, 2024, with the aim of raising funds for Multiple System Atrophy. Chief Hettinger confirmed that the request aligns with last year's and does not present any concerns. The Committee had no issues and directed Chief Hettinger to proceed by sending out his standard letter.

DISCUSS THE TRANSFER OF THE LADDER TRUCK TO THE FIRE COMMISSION: Manager Ledley provided an update stating that the Board of Commissioners' lease of the ladder truck to the Hanover Area Fire and Rescue Commission has been fully paid. Seeking guidance, she inquired

about the next steps for transferring the title. The Committee agreed to proceed with transferring the title to the Commission, as stipulated in the original agreement, without any objections.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Captain Wysocki referenced the Fire Commission report, highlighting that several members were acknowledged for their years of service, as well as staff receiving commendations for their outstanding efforts on the scene of emergencies.

EMA UPDATE: Emergency Management Coordinator Waltman submitted his report for January. He also made a special mention of an overnight oil spill that occurred on January 12th, praising all those involved for their swift action, which prevented what could have escalated into a small disaster.

OTHER MATTERS: Police Chief Hettinger stated that they were able to repair the gate at the Police Department for far less than originally projected.

Commissioner Brown raised a question about a police incident involving a fugitive that occurred in the Borough last week. Chief Hettinger clarified that while our officers were not directly involved in the incident, they responded promptly afterward to assist in securing the scene and gathering evidence.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,
Township Secretary