

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
APRIL 4, 2022

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, April 4, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Vice-Chairman Elksnis and Commissioners Berlingo, Brown, and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Township Engineer Bortner, Zoning Officer Smith, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Vice-Chairman Elksnis announced that there was an executive session held following the March 21, 2022, Penn Township Board of Commissioners Meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues. He also announced that there will be an executive session held following the Public Works Committee meeting this evening to discuss personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the March 7, 2022, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Barbara Rowlett, 9 Cantera Way, stated there have been a number of car break-ins in her neighborhood. Police Chief Hettinger stated that this normally occurs this time of year. He said there is an organized group that comes into a neighborhood by the van load, and are difficult to catch. They will hit a neighborhood and break-in to cars that are unlocked and rarely break-in the locked cars.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PRINTERS: Police Chief Hettinger reported that their five-year contract with Quality ends in July. The department currently has a color copier that produces thirty-five copies per minute. He contacted Quality and Doceo for quotes along with a quote for a color copier that produces fifty copies a minute. He is requesting the upgrade due to the increasing amount of paperwork. He also reported that the printer in the Sergeant's office is no longer working. Chief Hettinger is recommending to lease both printers with Doceo, the contract includes everything except the paper, and they provide the most cost savings. The Committee had no issues.

YMCA HALF MARATHON AND 5K: Police Chief Hettinger reported he received a letter dated March 22, 2022, from the Hanover area YMCA. They are planning to hold their annual half marathon and 5k race on Sunday, October 1, 2022, the race will begin at 8 a.m. They have flagger force on the course to direct traffic as well as volunteers to help with directing the runners. The course remains the same as in the past. Commissioner Brown expressed concern with last year's event, when flagger force blocked traffic. Chief Hettinger stated that he has spoken with the organizers and he was assured that it will not happen again. The Committee had no objections. Police Chief Hettinger will send them a letter.

2022 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE: Police Chief Hettinger reported he received a letter dated March 25, 2022, from the Hanover Allied Veterans Council requesting permission to hold their annual Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 30, 2022. The parade will start at 8:30 a.m. Manager Rodgers reported there will be a car provided for the Commissioners if they plan to ride in the parade. Commissions Berlingo, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland all expressed their interest to participate.

WALK FOR WATER: Police Chief Hettinger reported he was contacted by a representative from the Water Mission organization regarding the Central PA Walk for Water fundraiser. The walk will be held Saturday, April 30, 2022, starting at 9 a.m. The walk will begin at Moul Park, continue through the Hanover Trolley Trail and back. The route will cross Wilson Avenue, Barnhart Drive, and the Trolley Trail crossings. Cones will be placed in the center of the street to alert of crossings, but there will be no road closures. The Committee had no objections. Police Chief Hettinger will send them a letter.

YORK COUNTY QRT TRYOUTS: Police Chief Hettinger reported that QRT (SWAT) team for York County annually conducts tryouts for the team. The department currently has one participant and another officer is interested in trying out. Chief Hettinger reported they have had two officers on the team in the past and they are aware that the job with the Township comes first. The Committee had no issues.

HANOVER/PENN DRUG INVESTIGATION COOPERATION: Police Chief Hettinger reported he received correspondence from Chief Martin of the Borough of Hanover Police department. He asked if the Township would be interested into entering into a formal agreement to work together for drug enforcement case work. The York County Drug task force members have decreased, and most of their efforts surround York City. Chief Hettinger stated that he does not have an issue with working together, as they have in the past according to the Mutual Aid agreement. Chief Martin forwarded a more formalized agreement, which was passed on to Manager Rodgers and the solicitor. He has no issues working together, but was not sure if the agreement is in the Township's best interest. Chairman Elksnis asked if this would interfere with their Township duties. Chief Hettinger stated that this is part-time and would not. The Committee recommended waiting for the solicitor's advisement.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Chief Clouser reported the Fire Commission Finance and Personnel Committee is in the process of an audit. The auditors have asked for more information regarding the emergency medical services. The Committee had requested Chief Clouser's pension information from the Borough of Hanover, and the information has been passed to Solicitor Iannacone. Chief Clouser reported that the Volunteer Fire Department receives relief money from the Commonwealth. This year the Volunteer department has donated funds from that relief money to help dispose of approximately one thousand gallons of Class B foam that has been traced to cause health issues. They have also donated funds for the replacement of this foam. Chief Clouser stated the department is very fortunate for the donations. Commissioner Brown stated that the volunteers often step up to help without much

recognition. Chief Clouser stated their efforts are very much appreciated. Chief Clouser reported on Friday is the Memorial Service for Chief Cromer, the service will begin at 1 p.m. at the Clover Lane station. The service is open to the public, and in respecting Chief Cromer's wishes; afterwards there will be a party at S.A.V.E.S. There will be coverage provided for the Fire Commission staff so they are able to attend.

EMA UPDATE: The Committee reviewed Emergency Management Coordinator Waltman's March report.

OTHER MATTERS: Commissioner Brown reported that the Township has begun negotiations with the Patrolman's union. He has concerns with the consortium and how the Township recruits police officers. The officers have stated that the Township could get a higher quality of officer if we excluded the consortium and recruited ourselves. Chief Hettinger stated that when we went into the consortium about ten years ago, they would receive six to eight hundred applicants at a time, recently there were about eighty, for eleven departments. Chief Hettinger stated that we could remain with the consortium, but the Township has the option to test a candidate. The Committee agreed this is something to look into in the future.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: Mr. Gerald Funk, GHI, 213 Carlisle Street, told Police Chief Hettinger that he highly recommends Doceo, and he will be very happy with their service.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,
Township Secretary