

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 2, 2021

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, August 2, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Brown and Commissioners Black, Cromer, Elksnis, and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Township Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Mahone, Zoning Officer Smith and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Brown announced there was an executive session held following the July 19, 2021, Board of Commissioners Meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues, he further announced there would be an executive session held following the Health & Sanitation Committee meeting this evening.

Chairman Brown reported that tomorrow evening, August 3, 2021, the National Night Out venue has shifted from the Target parking lot to the Pet Smart parking lot. The event will take place from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the July 6, 2021, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Jonathan Sotak, Westminster Avenue, expressed his concern of vehicles speeding along Westminster Avenue. The posted limit is 25 mph. Police Chief Hettinger stated the department can conduct targeted enforcement in the area.

Jeff Waltman, 325 Park Heights Blvd, expressed his concern with speeding along Park Heights Blvd, and an increase of tractor trailer traffic along the road. Police Chief Hettinger stated the department can conduct targeted enforcement in the area.

POLICE ACCREDITATION PRESENTATION AT B.O.C. MEETING: Police Chief Hettinger reported that on July 20, 2021, he received a letter confirming their successful accreditation status. Jim Adams, PA Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission, will attend the Board of Commissioners meeting on August 16, 2021, to present the certificate.

HANOVER HOMECOMING PARADE REQUEST: The Committee received a letter dated July 21, 2021, from Hanover High School requesting permission to conduct their annual Hanover Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 1, 2021. The Committee recommended approving the request.

FIRE COMMISSION BUDGET PRESENTATION: Fire Chief Clouser presented the budget shortfall and recommendations for the Hanover Area Fire & Rescue Commissioner Emergency Medical Services. Chairman Brown stated that there are some tough decisions that need to be made, and to assess the water or sewer bill with

a fire fee is not fair, because not every resident receives an invoice. Commissioner Cromer asked Fire Chief Clouser if it would be to wise to use the \$75,000 slated for Capital Equipment and utilize to pay down the debt. Fire Chief Clouser answered that it's not what he would prefer to do, as the funds will be needed to update vehicles. Commissioner Black asked what decides if a call is billable. EMS Captain Claudia Christensen answered, that it depends on the complaint of the patient, and then the insurance company decides whether they feel if an ambulance was needed or not. Commissioner Black further asked if the insurance company decides not to pay, will the patient be invoiced. Ms. Christensen said that, yes, they are invoiced, but rarely do they receive the payment. Commissioner Black asked how they calculated the average cost of the calls. Ms. Christensen stated that there is a formula that is used called run cost analysis. Commissioner Black stated that with the average cost of a call and the approximate number of calls listed, the numbers stated are not adding up, and expressed concern if the EMS is in worse shape than reported. Chief Clouser stated that they tried to come as close to the estimated costs as possible. Commissioner Heiland asked Chief Clouser how he came to his recommendations. Chief Clouser reported he would like to spread the cost of EMS evenly out to all of the residents.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Chief Clouser reported he was not in attendance at the last meeting. He reported that Chief Daniel Hoff, from York Area United Fire and Rescue was in attendance to report on their merger experience, he stated it took them eight years. Chief Clouser added that we will not have a full merger, until there is a joint labor contract with the firefighters.

EMA UPDATE: EMA Coordinator Waltman reviewed his July report.

OTHER MATTERS: There were none.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,
Township Secretary