

MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
APRIL 3, 2023

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, April 3, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Elksnis and Commissioners Allison, Berlingo, Brown and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Captain Wysocki, Township Engineer Bortner, Zoning Officer Smith, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Elksnis announced there was an executive session held following the March 20, 2023, Penn Township Board of Commissioners Meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues. He also announced on Monday, May 1, 2023, Penn Township will host a MS4 Community Forum at 6 p.m., the Public Safety and Public Works committee meetings will be held immediately following.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the March 6, 2023, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

HANOVER RUN FEST HALF MARATHON: Police Chief Hettinger reported he received a request dated March 13, 2023, from the Hanover Area YMCA to hold the Run Fest Half Marathon and 5K on Saturday, October 7, 2023. Ms. Mary Wells, Community Wellness & Engagement Director, and Claire Thoman, Aquatics Director, 500 George Street were present to address the Committee's concerns about last year's race and the traffic back up along Gitts Run Road. Ms. Wells reported that for Gitts Run Road the flaggers direct traffic to the center portion of the road and race participants run on either side of the road. Chief Hettinger stated the main concern is the safety of the runners, and that traffic can move smoothly. Ms. Wells stated last year there were about 700 runners, with the hope of an increase this year. The current route is a certified Boston Marathon qualifier. Chief Hettinger will contact PennDOT to inquire about obtaining large signs to alert traffic. Ms. Wells will meet with Emergency Management Coordinator Jeff Waltman to discuss safety plans. Commissioner Allison asked if next year they could consider rerouting a portion of the race to alleviate the two running lanes along Gitts Run Road. Ms. Wells stated they can look at it for the future.

BOWMAN ROAD CLOSURE FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Police Chief Hettinger reported National Night Out will be held at Emory Markle Middle School on August 1, 2023. He would like to close Bowman Road between the Middle School and the High School during the event. The Committee had no issues.

LEFT TURN ARROW ON YORK STREET AT CENTER (WEST BOUND): Police Chief Hettinger reported he contacted ATS to request an updated quote and has not yet received a reply.

HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023-2025 M.O.U.: Police Chief Hettinger reported he received the Memorandum of Understanding from the Hanover School District. There have been no changes and no issues in the past. The Committee recommended approving the agreement.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Captain Wysocki reported that at the last Fire Commission meeting Mr. Newman was appointed the member at large then named as the Chairperson for the Commission. The Facilities and Apparatus Committee approved the purchase of two new ambulances for \$220,949. The AFG grant will be used for the sprinkler bid for the Wirt Park and Clearview Fire Stations. The Firefighters will be present at the Easter Egg Hunt and are working on plans for the National Night Out event. He provided an update for the Firefighter Civil Service exam, reporting out of the 25 applicants, 8 withdrew, 12 attended, 6 passed, with 4 passing the written exam. Active shooter training was held earlier today.

EMA UPDATE: Emergency Management Coordinator Waltman submitted his March report.

OTHER MATTERS: There were none.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,  
Township Secretary