

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MAY 1, 2023

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, May 1, 2023, at 6:45 p.m., following the MS4 Community Forum. Present were Chairman Elksnis and Commissioners Allison, 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: Chairman Elksnis announced there was an executive session held following the April 17, 2023, Penn Township Board of Commissioners Meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the April 3, 2023, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

HANOVER ATHLETIC BOOSTER 5K RACE: The Committee received a request dated April 19, 2023, from the Hanover Athletic Booster Club requesting to hold its annual Hawk Hustle 5K Race on Saturday, November 11, 2023. Chief Hettinger reported the race will cover the same route as the previous thirteen years, and they are not requesting any road closures. The Committee had no issues with the request and requested Chief Hettinger to send them a letter.

DISCUSS THE POSSIBILITY OF NEEDING TO HIRE TWO OFFICERS: Police Chief Hettinger reported that there is a possibility of losing two officers. One officer is running for an elected office and the other is on a short list with another municipality. As soon as he is notified, he would like to start the hiring process.

BOWMAN ROAD CLOSURE FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: Police Chief Hettinger reported Bowman Road will be closed between the Middle School and the High School during National Night Out on August 1, 2023. The Committee had no issues.

FIREFIGHTERS HAVING CDL VS PRO BOARD CERTIFICATION: Fire Chief Clouser presented the Committee with handouts with information regarding Pro Board Certification for Driver/Operator-Pumper and Driver/Operator-Aerial. He would like the Committee to review the information and consider replacing the requirement of a CDL license for the firefighters with the Pro Board Certification. He reported that in 2022 a class requirement was added to obtain a CDL permit, which is very costly to the firefighter. Buck's County Community College offers the class for the Pro Board Certification which would be covered under the membership the Commission holds. He would like to discuss it further at next month's meeting.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Chief Clousher reported the new member at large stepped in as Chairman and ran the Commission meeting well. He reported the agency that they purchased the two refurbished ambulances from had an issue with the paint job and sent them back to the company. The agency found the Commission two E350s which are larger than the originally purchased ambulances, and for the inconvenience the agency discounted both trucks by \$5,000.

EMA UPDATE: Emergency Management Coordinator Waltman reviewed his April report. He added that he was called out to two hazmat cases this month, and DEP was brought in both times.

Chairman Elksnis stated that he met with Mr. Waltman several weeks ago regarding the issue of naming a portion of Eisenhower Drive West Eisenhower Drive. He requested Mr. Waltman to forward the Committee information and would like to add to the agenda for next month's meeting.

OTHER MATTERS: Police Chief Hettinger reported he was contacted several months ago by the owner of Interstate Motorsports requesting to temporarily lift the no parking on the west side of Spring Garden Street during an open house event. He instructed Mr. Lau to write a letter to the Board of Commissioners making the request. Mr. Jeremy Lau, 910 York Street, business owner was present to address the Committee stating that time got away from him, and he did not send the letter and the open house will be held this Saturday, May 6, 2023. He stated that he is concerned for the safety of people crossing York Street, and requested if the no parking on Spring Garden Street could be temporarily lifted for the event. The Committee advised Mr. Lau that any decision would have to be made at the Board of Commissioner meeting, and the event is taking place before the meeting, so there is nothing that they can do.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,
Township Secretary