

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 2, 2020

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, November 2, 2020, at 7:00 p.m via an online meeting. Present were Chairman Brown and Commissioners Cromer, Elksnis, Heiland and Van de Castle. 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 Brown read the announcement of the executive session that was held following the October 19, 2020, Penn Township Board of Commissioners Meeting.

Commissioner Heiland announced there would be an executive session held this evening after the meetings.

Commissioner Brown read a summary of the online public meeting guidelines.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the October 5, 2020, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

NO-SHAVE NOVEMBER FUNDRAISER: Police Chief Hettinger reported that the Police Department will be participating in a no-shave November fundraiser starting November 2, continuing through December 11, 2020. The charitable donations will benefit Olivia's House, which was chosen by the female officers. Chief Hettinger added that he provided a challenge this year, if over \$5,000 is raised, he will shave his mustache, which has not happened in over thirty years. The donations may be made through Facebook. No donations will be taken at the police station.

2021 SPCA AGREEMENT: Township Manager Rodgers reported that the SPCA agreement is the same as in years past, with the exception of COVID-19 safety precautions. There was no increase in fees for the 2021 agreement. The committee recommended approving the agreement and placing on the Board of Commissioners agenda.

UPDATE ON 4 SCOTT STREET FIRE CODE ISSUES: Fire Chief Clouser reported he attended the court hearing this afternoon regarding this property. Chief Clouser issued three citations under the fire code to the resident. Magistrate Sneeringer found the resident not guilty on one count, and guilty of two, with a \$50 fine for each guilty count. Chief Clouser reported that he provided pictures to the Magistrate, as did a neighbor in attendance, who reported she has video of live rats in the area. Chief Clouser added that help has been offered to the resident in the past to get the property

cleaned, but, the resident will only agree if he gets to decide what items will be discarded. Chairman Brown stated this is a public health issue and action needs to be taken. The committee agreed to continue to attempt to get the property cleaned up. Zoning Officer Smith will be in contact with the committee to discuss further actions that can be taken.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Chief Clouser reported the commission continues to work on the agreement to bring the volunteers under the Fire Commission. The agreement is currently with the volunteers' attorney, once Chief Clouser receives it, he will present to the committee for review. Chief Clouser reported they discussed beginning the process to bring the firefighters and career staff under a joint contract. A few EMS workers were recognized by their patients. Chief Clouser reported he has begun to work on an EMS proposal for advance life support, and/or Mobile Intensive Care Unit services to West Manheim Township.

EMA UPDATE: EMA Coordinator Waltman reviewed his October report. Mr. Waltman added that he finalized and submitted the COVID-19 grant to PEMA.

EMERGENCY DECLARATION EXTENSION: Chairman Brown reported the Emergency Declaration began on March 16, 2020, and has been extended thus far. The committee agreed to extend the Emergency Declaration through November 9, 2020.

OTHER MATTERS: None.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: Kara Stultz, 6 Scott Street, Hanover, PA, addressed the committee regarding her neighbor's property at 4 Scott Street. She thanked the committee for addressing the issue. She stated they have been dealing with the mess for four years. They have dealt with dead rats, dead birds, the awful trash smell. She stated the neighborhood is in full support of action. She had a petition with over 70 signatures, with people knocking at her door to sign. She added that she has a contract with a pest control company to set rat traps to try to keep the rodents off her property. The committee thanked her for her input.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney
Township Secretary