

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 5, 2022

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, December 5, 2022, 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 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 November 21, 2022, Board of Commissioners Meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues with the solicitor. He also announced there will be an executive session held this evening following the Public Works Committee meeting.

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

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

DISCUSS AMENDING ORDINANCE 590 (SKATEBOARDS/ROLLERBLADES): Police Chief Hettinger reported that currently the ordinance addresses use of skateboards and rollerblades in the Township. An issue in the past few years is that many other devices have come about that don't fall under the ordinance. He reported that one of his officers had asked if the ordinance can be amended to include electrically assisted pedestrian transporters, such as electrically powered scooters, skateboards, seg-ways, unicycles, hoverboards, roller skates, and similar devices. The proposed amendment was sent to the solicitor for review. This does not include e-bikes, which are covered under the state. The committee discussed the ordinance is twenty years old, and if amended the ordinance needs to be very specific. Manager Rodgers stated that she can prepare the ordinance and forward it to the solicitor. Fire Chief Clouser stated that in the past ten years he has had one incident that he can recall.

DISCUSS TOWING ORDINANCE: Police Chief Hettinger reported he has drafted a new policy. Currently if a vehicle needs to be towed from the roadway, the tower is left up to the vehicle owner, if they don't have a choice of preference, they use the closest available. He would like to enact a rotating list of approved units. He stated that he would need an ordinance enacted by the Township. The approved units would need to meet certain criteria. He will have the proposed ordinance available for the January meeting for the Committee's review.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Chairman Elksnis took this time to introduce and congratulate Captain Joseph Wysocki, who was appointed at the last Fire Commission Meeting. Fire Chief Clouser reported Captain Wysocki took over his duties the day of the Fire Commission Meeting during C Shift. He reported that the board approved the final draft of the benefit package for the Fire Chief and Executive

Assistant. This will take effect on January 1, 2023, when the positions will be moved from Hanover Borough to be employed by the Fire Commission. He reported that the Executive Assistant has resigned, and the Finance Committee has met to discuss plans on how to address the situation. He reported that the Commission will be escorting Santa through the Township this weekend starting at 9:30 a.m., Saturday morning.

EMA UPDATE: Emergency Management Coordinator Waltman reviewed his November report. He reported that a local church is focusing their mission efforts locally. They have prepared care kits for fire displacement. The church is also working on an agreement with a local hotel. Coordinator Waltman will be meeting with Hanover Area Council of Churches. He also reported that he will be working on updating the Emergency Plan.

OTHER MATTERS: There were none.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,
Township Secretary