

MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
March 3, 2025

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, March 3, 2025, at 7:00pm. Present were Chairman Heiland, Commissioners Baile, Elksnis, Arnold, and Fanelli. Also present were Police Chief Merwede, Fire Chief Clouser, Township Engineer Eric Bortner, Zoning Officer LeFevre, Township Manager Sweeney, and Secretary Laura Klinefelter. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Heiland announced there was an executive session held on Monday, February 17, 2025, following the Board of Commissioners meeting regarding personnel matters. There will also be an executive session this evening following the Public Works meeting to discuss personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the February 3, 2025, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

DISCUSS SWSD FOUNDATION 5K: Chief Merwede received a letter from South Western School District's Education Foundation regarding an annual 5k run to be held on May 3, 2025. The run will start on Bowman Road. Chief Merwede recommends approval of the 5k.

DISCUSS ITMES FOR APRIL SHREDDING EVENT: Chief Merwede is getting together the records that no longer need to be obtained for shredding. These records will be approved for disposal by resolution at the Board of Commissioners meeting.

DISCUSS "NO LEFT TURN" ORDINANCE FOR BLACK ROCK ROAD & BALTIMORE ST: Chief Merwede said the police department has been issuing warnings for the no left turn violations and once the ordinance is in place people will be cited. The committee discussed cars are cutting through Dutch Country, but since that is private property the police can't enforce that unless the property owner requests it.

FIRE COMMISSION MEETING REVIEW: Fire Chief Clouser reviewed the treasurers report for the Fire Commission. Joseph Wysocki will be getting sworn in on the 20<sup>th</sup> as Deputy Chef. The Fire Department is looking to add a ladies bathroom on the second floor but will need to see if they can get a variance for the handicap accessibility requirements. Chief Clouser discussed the bucket truck, Deputy Fire Chief Vehicle, and ambulance purchases that will need to happen in the future.

APPROVAL TO HIRE A NEW FIREFIGHTER TO REPLACE CAPTAIN WYSOCKI: The Committee believes that another fire fighter needs hired. There is an approved list for hiring and backgrounds checks will need to be started.

DIRECT CIVIL SERVICE TO DEVELOP A PROMOTIONAL LIST FOR THE POSITION OF CAPTAIN:

The committee recommends the civil service to develop a promotional list for the position of captain. This will be added to the Board of Commissioners' agenda.

APPROVE MOVING FORWARD WITH A FOOD TRUCK ORDINANCE: Fire Chief Clouser reviewed the discussions about a food truck ordinance that will ensure the trucks are inspected by the fire department. Currently, Hanover Borough is working on putting together a food truck ordinance. Commissioner Heiland said that the Township ordinance may not need to be the same as the Borough ordinance because of the event needs are different. Chief Clouser is going to start the initiative to begin a draft ordinance for the Township for review.

EMA UPDATE: Jeff Waltman reviewed the EMA report with the committee. He thanks the officials who came to the emergency management for public officials training over the weekend. A duplex fire that happened in the Township was discussed. The Red Cross was notified to help the displaced families, and they were able to assist virtually.

DISCUSS BREEZEWOOD DRIVE ADDRESS ISSUES: Jeff Waltman reviewed the Breezewood Drive address issue with the Commissioners. Breezewood Drive splits off into two roads and the street numbers go back and forth on the two roads. This makes it difficult for first responders to find the correct house in an emergency. A potential resolution is to rename the section of Breezewood Drive that only has 8 houses on it. Letters were sent to the 8 houses that would be affected, and Renee Waters from 241 Breezewood attended the meeting to take notes for her neighbors. The commissioners discussed talking to the Post Master about moving the mailboxes for these 8 houses as they are on the opposite side and the residents need to cross the road to retrieve their mail. Renee Waters is going to meet with her neighbors to discuss this. Commissioner Heiland asked for this to be added to the April agenda so that more time is allowed for the residents to respond and give their feedback. Commissioner Baile asked if a checklist could be put together to help the residents if the street name is changed.

OTHER MATTERS: None

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Klinefelter  
Township Secretary