

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
June 2, 2025

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, May 5, 2025, at 7:00pm., Commissioners Baile, Elksnis, Arnold, and Fanelli, and Heiland via phone. Also present were Police Chief Merwede, Fire Chief Clousher, Township Engineer Eric Bortner, Zoning Officer LeFevre, EMA Coordinator Jeff Waltman, Township Manager Sweeney, and Secretary Laura Klinefelter. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Arnold announced there was an executive session held on Monday, May 19, 2025, following the Board of Commissioners meeting regarding personnel matters. There will also be an executive session this evening following the Public Works Committee meeting to discuss personnel matters.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the May 5, 2025, Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Harry Shuler, 642 Boundary Ave: Resident is looking for help regarding the speeding on the road. He said he has reached out to the state rep regarding allowing local police to have radar but has not seen any progress. Chief Merwede is going to investigate this and see what options there are to deter the speeding. The resident said he is representing several residents on Boundary Avenue. Chief Merwede said he will talk to Hanover Borough as well to possibly do dual speed traps.

DISCUSS PROBATIONARY PATROLMAN WALTERSDORFF'S PROBATION: Chief Merwede said there were no issues with his probationary period. Recommends moving forward when the probationary period is over.

DISCUSS LEFT TURN SIGNAL ON WILSON AVE AT YORK ST: Police received correspondence from Abby Gable Hanover Logistics who is their safety compliance manager. There is a concern for this intersection due to trucks turning and not being able to get through the light. They are asking for help to potentially put in a turn lane/Signal at Wilson & York St. Commissioner Elksnis asked what it would involve to make this happen. Engineer Bortner received a few quotes to have a study done at this intersection which is the first step. Once that is done, the Township will need to get with the traffic engineer to see what needs to be done and propose this to PennDOT, if its feasible. Commissioner Heiland asked if these studies are budgeted in a line item. Engineer Bortner said there is a rotation of studies that are done that are budgeted for.

DISCUSS A DOG LAW ORDINANCE: Chief Merwede discussed the MOU with the dog warden Michelle Klugh, that services are \$150 per hour on a Wednesday. The Township currently receives these bills. Police are going to research a new ordinance to be able to bill for the services when the Dog Warden is called in.

DISCUSS CADET MYERS' POLICE ACADEMY STATUS: Graduation is June 23rd and she is doing very well. FTO estimated to start June 25th.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Chief Clousher discussed Penn-Mar Radio made a presentation at the Fire Commission meeting to invite them to a field day at Codorus Park. Fire Commission is looking to re-chassis an EMS vehicle estimated cost being \$180,000.00. The phone system is looking to be replaced at the Clover Lane station. Deputy Chief Wysocki has appointed a committee to look at a potential purchase of a ladder truck.

UPDATE ON FLOATER POSITION: Chief Clousher said they have a candidate for the floater position. The candidate had the background check done. Conditional employment will be given with the expectancy of them going to the fire academy.

UPDATE ON CAPTAIN'S PROMOTIONAL TEST: 11 firefighters took a written exam and will be doing an oral exam in June. Once a final list is created, the commissioners can potentially interview the final candidates.

EMA UPDATE: Jeff Waltman said there were no reportable damage from the rain storms. Jeff discussed the vulnerability of the attendees of street events and looked at different barricades that can help, some can stop a 10-ton truck, and one person can deploy them. Jeff thanked all the first responders who were part of the natural gas leak in Hanover Borough last month.

DISCUSS BREEZEWOOD DRIVE: July 21st will be the public hearing for the Breezewood Drive name change

OTHER MATTERS: There were none.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS TO COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Sharon Narushoff, 11 Willow Ct- Is inquiring about alerts for tornados, fires, etc. Jeff Waltman said the county usually handles pushing out alerts for these items. If there is an issue like a hazmat incident in the Township, the location can be given to the County, and they can notify the residents in that area the alert. The resident also discussed restricting

vehicle modification and the noise that these vehicles are producing. She brought sample ordinances for restricting the noise for the Police Chief and the Township can review.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Klinefelter
Township Secretary