

MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
MAY 4, 2020

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, May 4, 2020, at 7:00 p.m via an online meeting. Present were Vice Chairman Elksnis and Commissioners Brown, Heiland and Van de Castle. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Township Engineer Bortner, Public Works Supervisor Ortman, Zoning Officer Smith, and MS4 Stormwater Coordinator Hirt, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Vice Chairman Elksnis read the Summary of the Public Meeting Guidelines.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the March 2, 2020 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted. There was no meeting held in April, 2020.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

RELAY FOR LIFE CANVASSING: Police Chief Hettinger reported on March 1, 2020, he received a request from the American Cancer Society to conduct their annual canvassing event on June 13, 2020, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at four intersections in the township. They have had no issues with this event in the past. Commissioner Heiland suggested that they should wear masks. Chief Hettinger stated that he would send them a letter and include that all CDC guidelines should be followed to maintain safety precautions.

SONNY STREET "NO PARKING": Police Chief Hettinger reported that since the last meeting, the resident at 381 Sonny Street has improved the edge of his property to park his vehicles, removing them three to three and a half feet off the roadway. Having done so, provides a gradual decrease in roadway on Sonny towards Grandview. Chief Hettinger and Traffic and Engineering Certified Officer Brian Smith both reviewed the improvements and it is their recommendation that the north side of the street be posted no parking. Chief Hettinger contacted the resident at 380 Sonny Street, and they have no objection. The committee made a favorable recommendation of posting no parking on the north side of Sonny Street, however asked Chief Hettinger to keep an eye on the situation.

POLICE "PREMIER AGENCY" ACCREDITATION AWARD: Police Chief Hettinger reported he received a letter dated March 17, 2020, from the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. A policy was put into effect that recognizes any agency that has been re-accredited five times or more, with no provisions or extensions, be granted the status of Premier Agency. Chief Hettinger stated that he is very proud of this level of excellence, only ten agencies in the state, and two in York

County have received this status. The Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police would like to attend a meeting to make the presentation when regulations allow. The committee looks forward to the presentation.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Chief Clouser reported that the Fire Commission Meeting was canceled in April do the COVID-19 pandemic, they will be holding the May meeting via ZOOM online meeting software. He has a ZOOM meeting scheduled with the Township and Borough Managers to the review the agenda and other items prior to the commission meeting.

EMA UPDATE: Emergency Management Coordinator Jeff Waltman presented his report for April. He has been participating in regular meetings with the York County Department of Emergency Services, and Hanover Area COVID-19 Community Group through weekly teleconference meetings. He has been monitoring inventories of PPE, and the demand for basic nutrition needs, and has spoken to several agencies and private interest that have sponsored events, that provide meals at low/no cost or boxed/bagged groceries, all indicated there is an increase in demand. He spoke to County Social Services, and he is going to request a popup food distribution site in the area. Commissioner Brown asked Fire Chief Clouser who would be submitting expenses for the fire commission relating to COVID-19, Chief Clouser stated that EMA Waltman would be submitting the COVID-19 related material expenses for the PEMA/FEMA Grant. The Township would need to submit any personnel expenses.

OTHER MATTERS: Fire Chief Clouser stated that they were called out to a hazmat incident regarding a spill this past week and MS4 Coordinator Hirt did an excellent job.

Fire Clouser stated he received a call from a resident on Westminster Avenue wishing to burn the wood from a dilapidated shed/outbuilding, the resident owns five and half acres. Chief Clouser reported the ordinance states he must have ten contiguous acres, however there were amendments made to the ordinance 2015. Chief Clouser is looking for clarification of the amendments and of the intent, if it was to be to all open burning has to have ten contiguous acres. After discussion, the committee agreed the intent was strictly ten contiguous acres for all open burning.

Commissioner Elksnis inquired about the status of the Police mug/patch American Cancer Society fundraiser. Police Chief Hettinger stated that due to businesses being closed it was on hold, but will continue to look into it.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna M. Sweeney  
Township Secretary