

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
JUNE 1, 2020

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, June 1, 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, Public Works Supervisor Ortman, Zoning Officer Smith, MS4 Stormwater Coordinator Hirt, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Brown read the Summary of the Public Meeting Guidelines.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the May 4, 2020 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

HANOVER AREA NIGHT OUT: Police Chief Hettinger reported that Hanover Area Night Out is scheduled for August 4, 2020. He stated that it is unknown if night out will happen and his department has reached out to the vendors and all are aware to prepare as if it will be held, but with the possibility that it may be canceled due to the pandemic.

FIREFIGHTER COMPLETES PROBATION: Fire Chief Clouser reported that Firefighter Kory Weaver was hired on September 24, 2019, completed the academy on November 15, 2019 and completed his probationary period on May 15, 2020. Chief Clouser stated that he is doing a fine job and should be placed on regular status. The Committee recommended that Firefighter Weaver be placed on regular status effective May 15.

REVIEW OF FIRE COMMISSION MEETING: Fire Chief Clouser reported that the Hanover Area Fire and Rescue Commission approved a solicitor, Pillar + Ault, Attorney Cory Iannacone. Chief Clouser stated that Attorney Iannacone will attend the next fire commission meeting.

Chief Clouser stated that he attended the rally at the square this past weekend and stated that it was a peaceful protest, with little to no disruptions.

Chairman Brown wanted to remind the committee of an upcoming meeting on Wednesday, June 3, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. to work on an agreement with the Volunteers to join the Fire Commission.

EMA UPDATE: Emergency Management Coordinator Jeff Waltman presented his report for May. He added that there is a decline in Covid 19 cases in the south-central region. He is continuing to monitor corona virus situation.

Police Chief Hettinger stated that Bill James sends out a daily update of COVID-19, and civil disobedience, and requested that EMA Waltman pass along his thanks and appreciation for the reports.

OTHER MATTERS: Chairman Brown asked Police Chief Hettinger for a final summation on the posting of no parking on Sonny Street. Chief Hettinger reported that he and Engineer Bortner went out, the signs were placed, and he spoke with the residents on both sides of the street and all are happy.

Police Chief Hettinger commended Manager Rodgers for her attendance and participation of the YWCA Stand Up Against Racism event.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Resident Richard C. Zinn, 16 Alexander Drive, Hanover, wanted to be a part of the meeting and learn more about the township, specifically the police need in regard to data storage and body cameras. He would like to become more involved, possibly with raising funds, or becoming an advocate for a lower cost alternative to achieve more transparency within the township. Chairman Brown thanked Mr. Zinn for his concern. He stated that this has been discussed in the past, and they were able to install dashboard cameras. Chairman Brown stated that this would not happen this year with budget restraints, and is something that we should research. Mr. Zinn is not involved with any programs, but would like to offer his help. Chairman Brown stated that Mr. Zinn is welcome to attend the meetings, and Chief Hettinger thanked Mr. Zinn, and stated that this is something that they have been looking into. Commissioner Van de Castle asked Chief Hettinger if he could get estimates, to see what we would be looking at, and stated that it may not fit in the budget for next year, but would give them something to work with. Mr. Zinn added that he has experience with fundraising and would be willing to be of assistance. Chief Hettinger stated that he would keep in touch.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney
Township Secretary