

PENN TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 4, 2008

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee met on Monday, February 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Penn Township Municipal Building. Present were Chairman Johnson and Commissioners Prieber, Goldsmith, and Rewa. Commissioner Heilman was absent with notice. Also present were Manager Garvick, Police Chief Gilbert, Fire Chief Cromer, and Administrative Assistant Rodgers. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Johnson read the announcement of the executive session held following the Board of Commissioners meeting on January 21, 2008. Commissioner Johnson announced that an executive session would be held following the Finance meeting to discuss a personnel issue.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: James Poggie, 6 Heights Avenue, questioned why the Township has chosen to park one of their code vehicles legally on the street where he wants to park his tractor-trailer. Commissioner Johnson and Manger Garvick stated that the Township vehicle is parked legally and that they are trying to protect the individuals utilizing the recycling center who have difficulty exiting the facility when Mr. Poggie's tractor-trailer is parked there. Mr. Poggie was again informed that he can park his vehicle on the opposite side of the street or wherever it can be legally parked.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE: The Committee received a request dated January 14, 2008 from the Allied Veterans Council to hold the annual Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 26, 2008. The Committee recommended approving the request.

HARTMAN AVENUE: Chief Gilbert reported that at last month's Board of Commissioners meeting a gentleman from Hartman Avenue requested that something be done about speeding cars using Hartman Avenue as a shortcut between Blettner Avenue and Westminster Road. Chief Gilbert stated that the police department has been doing some selective enforcement in the area. When Hartman Avenue was connected to Blettner Avenue there was never a stop sign installed which makes it easy to use the road as a shortcut. Chief Gilbert conducted a traffic study and it recommends that a stop sign be installed on Hartman Avenue. The Committee recommended installing the stop sign.

RENTAL PROPERTIES: Chief Cromer reported that he approached the Board last August about adopting a rental property registration ordinance so that the fire fighters can inspect rental properties for fire regulation violations. He stated there has been problems on fire calls with rental properties and that about eighty-five percent of them do not have active smoke detectors in addition to many fire code violations. One of the problem areas includes individuals living in attics. Commissioners Johnson and Heilman are aware of the proposed ordinance and Chief Cromer would like to know if he can continue to pursue this. He is hoping that once the properties are registered he will be able to have them inspected on an annual basis by him or one of the paid firemen. Manager Garvick reported that an ordinance has been prepared and forwarded to the Solicitor for his review. The new commissioners will be provided a copy of the proposed Ordinance.

FIRE ENGINE REPAIRS: Chief Cromer reported that the fire engine that needs repaired

was taken to Lancaster on January 24. He has not heard anything from them but they were not to begin work on it till February 4, 2008. The Borough of Hanover has agreed to let us borrow one of their trucks.

BREEZEWOOD DRIVE: Commissioner Goldsmith stated that he spoke with a lady on Breezewood Drive about cars jumping the bank where the old road transitions into the new one. He asked that a police presence be in the area following the dismissal of school. Chief Gilbert stated that the old yellow centerlines are still on the road and makes it appear that the road goes in that direction. He has spoken with Highway Foreman Mahan and reflectors have been installed and the yellow lines will be grinded off. Chief Gilbert stated that most people are not aware that the road has changed and they have had some officers stationed in the area.

5K RUN: The Committee received a request dated January 31, 2008 from Matthew Staub requesting a permission to hold a 5k-road race on March 15, 2008. Chief Gilbert stated that the department does not normally provide traffic control but does assign a unit to patrol the route during the event. Chief Gilbert would normally send a letter noting that official action is not required by the Board of Commissioners. The Board recommended following this procedure.

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey R. Garvick, Manager