

PENN TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
JULY 2, 2012

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee met on Monday, July 2, 2012 at 7:00 PM. Present were Chairman Prieber and Commissioners Felix, Klunk, Goldsmith and Heilman. Also present were Manager Garvick, Deputy Police Chief Laughlin, Fire Chief Cromer, WWTP Superintendent Mahone and Highway Foreman Mahan. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Prieber read the announcement of the executive session held following the Board of Commissioners meeting on June 18, 2012.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the June 4, 2012 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZENS COMMENTS: Keenan Hall, 274 Bankert Road, expressed concerns about speeding along Bankert Road. He is concerned because of a blind spot near his driveway, which makes it difficult for anyone making turns in and out of his driveway to see oncoming traffic. He is requesting a hidden driveway sign or some other traffic sign warning about vehicles entering the roadway. His main concern is for the traffic heading south towards Black Rock Road. Chief Laughlin stated that he would like to install the new radar sign to collect data about the number and speed of vehicles that are traversing the road. Chief Laughlin stated that they would put the device out within the next couple of days and a sergeant would be contacting Mr. Hall with the results.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT BALTIMORE STREET/CLOVER LANE: Chief Cromer stated that he inquired several months ago about the possibility of installing yellow blinking signal lights on Baltimore Street in the vicinity of Clover Lane. He also stated that he has heard nothing regarding the long-awaited traffic signal at the intersection. The fire apparatus is having difficulty exiting from Clover Lane, especially northbound, onto Baltimore Street. Manager Garvick stated that in 2004 developer Joseph A. Myers submitted the Stonewicke preliminary subdivision plan. As a condition of plan approval Mr. Myers agreed to pay for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Clover Lane and Baltimore Street. The plan is not being pursued due to current economic conditions. The Township cannot require the developer to install the signal prior to approval of the plan. The second option is that the Township has \$52,000 that was donated by an adjacent property owner toward the installation of the signal. The Township could supplement \$75,000-\$100,000 out of Highway Aid in order to design and install the signal. The only options are to wait or have the signal installed by the Township. Mr. Myers did subsequently subdivide the commercial lot from the residential lot but he has not subdivided any of the residential lots since the preliminary plan has not yet been approved. Mr. Myers did agree to install the signal as part of the approved plan but since he has not developed any of the lots on this plan that would contribute to increased traffic onto Baltimore Street, he cannot be required to contribute to the improvement. The Committee recommended negotiating with Mr. Myers, having him contribute towards the signal while the Township would install the signal prior to the construction of the development. There was some discussion about requesting a letter

of credit for the project. The Committee felt the time has come to have the signal installed. Manager Garvick stated that Mr. Myers tried to acquire the necessary rights-of-way for the installation of the signal but was not able to secure it because the property owners wanted additional improvements. The Township may need to condemn some property in order to install the signal. The Committee stated that first step would be to discuss the improvements with Mr. Myers and then proceed with the installation of the signal. There was also some discussion about the installation of the signal at Center and York Street.

FIRE POLICE REQUESTS: Chief Cromer stated that he met several weeks ago with the fire police and they are continually receiving more requests for their services. He stated that the requests have grown beyond control and it is not practical for them to assist at all of the events they are requested for. They have developed a policy that for any event that is **not** a community service event (i.e. school graduation, parades, fire calls, etc.) they will be charging an additional \$15/hour for each fire policeman assisting at the event. The money they receive is used to purchase equipment. Chief Cromer stated that letters would be sent to those organizations that request the services. Deputy Police Chief Laughlin stated that charging for the service is a good idea because the Township does not allow Joe Q public to control traffic so they request the fire police.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristina J. Rodgers, Township Secretary