

PENN TOWNSHIP  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 4, 2008

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee met on Monday, August 4, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Penn Township Municipal Building. Present were Chairman Johnson and Commissioners Prieber, Goldsmith, Heilman, and Rewa. Also present were Manager Garvick, Acting Police Chief Rhodes, 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 July 21, 2008.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the July 7, 2008 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as presented.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: Erika Johnson, 17 Garden Lane, requested the Township review and reconsider its skateboarding ordinance, which prohibits skateboarders from using the streets. She stated that there aren't any designated areas for skateboarding within the Township. Commissioner Johnson explained how Maryland insurance policies differ from those in Pennsylvania. This is why municipalities in Maryland can merge resources in order to provide skate parks for their residents. The three closest are in Hampstead, Manchester and Westminster. The Hanover Area YMCA did have a skateboard facility but it was removed due to lack of use. Chief Rhodes explained how the department enforces the Township's skateboard ordinance and in most cases they do not cite an individual for the first violation. It was suggested that Solicitor Tilley review the Ordinance and current case law with regards to skateboarding and Township liability. It was noted that there are not a lot of available recreational activities for our younger residents.

Andy Boyer, 1280 Brad Drive, wanted clarification as to why a bicycle could travel on the street while a skateboard could not. Chief Rhodes stated that the state vehicle code provides for pedestrian and bicycle traffic on and along roadways. If anyone violates the code they could be cited.

CIVIL SERVICE TEST: Chief Rhodes stated that the Civil Service Commission is preparing an eligibility list for probationary patrolmen and received 122 applications. The written test is scheduled for August 16, 2008.

NEW FIRE ENGINE: Chief Cromer stated that the new fire engine was delivered last Tuesday. The engine is being housed at the Frederick Street station. They did some training with it last Wednesday and Thursday. Some paperwork and licensing need to be completed and it is hoped that the apparatus will be in service by late September.

FIREFIGHTER CAPTAINS: Chief Cromer reported that Matthew Boyce, Geoff William Miller, and Kevin Adams have completed their one-year probationary period and all the requirements for firefighter captains. He would like them appointed as permanent firefighter captains. The Committee recommended approving the appointments.

POLICE CRUISER: Chief Rhodes stated that he has placed an order with Warnock for a 2008 police cruiser to replace the one that was recently damaged beyond repair. The vehicle will be purchased using the state contract pricing on July 28, 2008. Delivery is projected to be four to six weeks.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Garvick, Manager