

PENN TOWNSHIP
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 1, 2010

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee met on Monday, November 1, 2010 at 7:00 PM. Present were Chairman Felix and Commissioners Prieber, Heilman, Goldsmith and Rewa. Also present were Manager Garvick, Police Chief Rhodes, Fire Chief Cromer and Administrative Assistant Rodgers. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Prieber read the announcement of the executive session held following the Board of Commissioners meeting on October 18, 2010.

APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the October 4, 2010 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD: None.

POLICE BID CRUISER: Chief Rhodes reported that he has spoken with Chief Whitson in Hanover Borough about competitively bidding the new Penn police cruisers along with Hanover's. The Township utilized the state contract for the last two police car purchases. The Township could bid the vehicles and then decide not to purchase due to budget constraints. The Committee recommended proceeding with the bid to see how the prices come out.

PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICERS: Chief Rhodes reported that Police Officers O'Brien and Steele have satisfactorily completed their probationary period and recommended that they be promoted to patrolman status effective November 17, 2010. The Committee recommended approving the appointment.

COMMUNICATION TOWERS: Chief Cromer reported that new radio towers were installed in West Manheim Township and on the Hanover Hospital but they were taken off line along with the Iron Ridge tower for repairs and upgrades. The towers were put back online but only the Iron Ridge tower was deemed accepted by York County Control. Chief Cromer reported that he was told to check back at the end of the week to see if the other two towers had been accepted. There was some concern if this would help with the communications with Adams County emergency service. Chief Cromer stated that once the York County towers are accepted they will address the Adams County communications issues. Adams County will be on a different frequency than York County. The Adams County tower may be moved to the hospital to alleviate their communication problems.

FOAM TRAILER: Chief Cromer reported that he and Hanover Borough Fire Commissioner Roth have been working on getting a foam trailer for the Hanover area due to CSX railroad consolidating their services more in this area. The additional freight is suspected to be shipments comprised of hazardous material. Chief Cromer is concerned about this due to the closeness of the railroad tracks to businesses in the area and the lack of a foam trailer near the Township. Chief Cromer stated that they received a waiver to get a grant through homeland security, although the funds will not be available until 2012. There was some concern that CSX should be contacted about contributing because they are the reason we need to acquire the trailer. CSX stated that they are not hauling hazardous material through the area but Chief Cromer wants a study done of the material. He stated that the foam trailer would be used both in Adams and York County if needed to secure the grant. The trailer would be used the same as our current trucks are used on a mutual aid call.

PROBATIONARY FIREFIGHTER: Chief Cromer recommended that probationary firefighter Anthony Phillips be appointed to regular firefighter status. The Committee recommended the appointment.

FIRE FIGHTER OVERSEAS: Chief Cromer announced that volunteer firefighter Matt Lynd will be returning home within the next couple of weeks from Iraq. This will be his last tour of duty. There is still one volunteer firefighter serving overseas and he is due to return in several months.

HANOVER BOROUGH AGREEMENT: Commissioner Felix announced that the agreement with Hanover Borough for the fire chief's services has been prepared and will be adopted at the next Commissioners meeting.

CIVIL SERVICE: Manager Garvick reported that there is an opening on the Civil Service Commission and the Township has received an application for the position and expects to receive others.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey R. Garvick, Manager