

MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 7, 2017

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, August 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Felix and Commissioners Brown, Heilman, Klunk, and Van de Castle. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Laughlin, Police Lieutenant Hettinger, Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Mahone, Interim Zoning Officer Garrett, and Township Secretary Hallett. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Felix read the announcement of executive session that was held following the Board of Commissioners public meeting on July 17, 2017. Commissioner Felix announced an executive session to discuss legal matters was held preceding the Public Safety meeting this evening.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the July 3, 2017 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Mr. Paul Wenzel, 1120 Westminster Avenue, asked the Committee for permission to carry a concealed firearm in the Community Park. He explained that he has a concealed carry permit and feels safer with his gun, but noticed a sign indicating firearms are not allowed on park property. After discussion the Committee decided to speak with the Township Solicitor about the issue and get back with Mr. Wenzel at a later date.

MOU WITH SOUTH WESTERN SCHOOL DISTRICT: The Committee received a letter dated July 7, 2017 from South Western School District asking the Township to renew a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Chief Laughlin explained this is renewed every two years and has not changed since the last one was signed. The Committee recommended approving the MOU.

UPCOMING DUI CHECKPOINT: Chief Laughlin informed the Committee that the Police Department will perform their annual DUI Checkpoint later this summer.

SOUTH WESTERN HIGH SCHOOL REQUEST: The Committee received a letter dated July 21, 2017 from the South Western High School Athletic Department. They are requesting two Penn Township police officers be present for security at their home varsity football games. They are also using security personnel from G-Force for crowd control. After discussion the Committee recommended approving the request.

JAYCEES REQUEST TO HOLD THE HALLOWEEN PARADE: The Committee received a letter dated July 31, 2017 from the Hanover Area Jaycees requesting to hold the annual Halloween Parade on October 26, 2017, with a rain date of October 30, 2017. The parade will begin at 7:30 p.m. and last until approximately 10:00 p.m. The Committee recommended approving the request.

TRICK-OR-TREAT: The Committee recommended setting Trick-or-Treat for Tuesday, October 24, 2017 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

SOUTH WESTERN BAND BOOSTERS REQUEST FOR FIRE POLICE: The Committee received a letter from South Western Band Boosters requesting use of the Penn Township Fire Police for their event on October 7, 2017. Fire Chief Clouser will be instructed to respond to the request.

KLUGH ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT FOR 2018: Manager Rodgers reported she received the Klugh Animal Control Contract for 2018. She pointed out the changes between the 2017 and 2018 contracts. Chief Laughlin said they have provided excellent service and have been very reliable. The Committee recommended approving the contract.

POLICE PRESENTATION: Chief Laughlin gave a presentation on the Police Department. He reviewed staffing levels, upcoming retirements, accreditation, training and the associated costs. He went over equipment that will be needed in 2018 and asked the Committee to consider hiring a police officer in January. Chief Laughlin reported the Night Out event held on August 1, 2017 was a success. Patrolman Gebhart was in charge and Chief Laughlin said he did an exceptional job. The Committee discussed the new in-car cameras and the associated policy.

OTHER MATTERS: None.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Angela M. Hallett  
Township Secretary