

MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Felix and Commissioners Brown, Heilman, and Van De Castle. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Laughlin, Police Lieutenant Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Mahone, Interim Zoning Officer Garrett, and Township Secretary Hallett. Commissioner Klunk was absent with notice. 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 August 21, 2017. Commissioner Felix announced an executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters would be held following the Health & Sanitation meeting this evening.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the August 7, 2017 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

GOLD'S GYM 5K REQUEST: The Committee received a letter dated July 2, 2017 from Gold's Gym requesting to hold their annual 5K/10K race. Police Chief Laughlin said their course will be the same as past years. There are no roads being closed and they have enough volunteers to handle everything. Chief Laughlin will send them a letter.

HAWK HUSTLE REQUEST: The Committee received a letter dated August 8, 2017 from Hanover Athletic Booster Club requesting to hold their eighth annual Hawk Hustle 5K. Chief Laughlin said they have never had problems with this event. He will send them a letter.

HANOVER HOMECOMING PARADE: The Committee discussed the Hanover Homecoming Parade. Chief Laughlin said he has not received their request yet, but the parade has been the same for many years. The Committee instructed Chief Laughlin to respond to their request once it is received.

HIRING OF A PROBATIONARY PATROLMAN: Police Chief Laughlin reported that two officers are retiring in late 2018 or early 2019 and he would like to begin the process of hiring a probationary patrolman to be enrolled in training January 2018. Commissioner Felix said there has been discussion about hiring an officer in January 2018 and another in July 2018. He said this evening only concerns the January hire. The Committee recommended Chief Laughlin begin the hiring process to have a probationary patrolman hired in January 2018. If the successful candidate is already Act 120, they can start in January rather than going through training.

FIRE POLICE APPLICATION: The Committee received a Fire Police application from Christopher Oberlin. Fire Chief Clouser said Mr. Oberlin is a volunteer with Penn Township Volunteer Emergency Services and is also an active duty military reservist. The Police

Department will perform a background check and give the results to Manager Rodgers. The Committee recommended approving the application pending the background check.

OTHER MATTERS: Commissioner Heilman announced there is an opening on the Penn Township Zoning Hearing Board. Commissioner Brown said it's a great Board to sit on and there's one meeting a month.

Commissioner Van de Castle asked how the in-car cameras are working. Police Chief Laughlin said they are working well. They had the opportunity to review footage from some incidents that occurred over the weekend and it was helpful. The officers have adapted well to the cameras.

Fire Chief Clouser said the Fire Department has received new radios. They had the old radios reprogrammed for the Public Works department to use.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Jennifer Lucey, 4217 Grandview Road, was present. She said she's new to the area and wanted to ask the Committee to consider some concerns she has for public safety, specifically for children. She asked that solid white shoulder lines be painted on Grandview Road between Westminster Avenue and Baltimore Street. There are some white lines on this section of road already, but they are fading. She believes this will protect people who are walking on Grandview Road as well as motorists. Mrs. Lucey asked that the speed limit on Grandview Road be reduced to twenty-five miles per hour from Baltimore Street to Beck Mill Road. She asked that the line painting and speed limit change be done by June of 2018.

Mrs. Lucey asked the Committee to consider a community pool association. She believes a pool could be put in at the Community Park. She said everyone should have the opportunity to become a good swimmer and it's an excellent way to get exercise. She said the pool association should be limited to Township residents and their visitors. She suggested a membership fee to help cover the lifeguard and maintenance costs.

Commissioner Felix thanked Mrs. Lucey for her comments. Mrs. Lucey asked when her concerns would be voted on. Commissioner Felix explained that there would be no vote taken. The line painting and speed limit require a traffic study and none could be scheduled until after the Wellspan medical facility is finished. Commissioner Felix explained that a pool paid for with taxes cannot be a private pool, it has to be open to everyone. He also said there is a Master Plan Committee that has been meeting for the past year to discuss Young's Woods and the Community Park and they have not recommended a swimming pool for the Community Park. Commissioner Felix explained how the Committee meetings and Board of Commissioners meetings work in Penn Township.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Hallett  
Township Secretary