

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
JUNE 6, 2016

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Monday, June 6, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. Present were Chairman Felix and Commissioners Brown, Klunk, Heilman, and Van de Castle. Also present were Township Manger Rodgers, Police Chief Laughlin, Fire Chief Cromer, and Township Secretary Hallett. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Felix read the announcement of the executive session held following the Board of Commissioners meeting on May 16, 2016. There will be an executive session to discuss personnel following the Finance Committee meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the May 2, 2016 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

CURVE STUDY FOR YOUNGS ROAD: Police Chief Laughlin reported Pat Wright is coming on June 14, 2016 to conduct a curve study on Youngs Road. Commissioner Van de Castle asked if this would include arrows. Chief Laughlin said the study will dictate the signage required by Penn DOT for this type of curve.

OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD: Police Chief Laughlin asked the Board to present the officer of the year award to Officer Berwager at the June 20, 2016 Board of Commissioners meeting. This will be the second year in a row that Officer Berwager has been voted by his peers to receive the award. Other awards were given at the departmental meeting. The Board recommended presenting the award to Officer Berwager at the June 20th meeting.

NIGHT OUT PROJECT: Police Chief Laughlin reported that the Township has not received communication from South Western School District about holding the Night Out at the school. Officer Carbaugh has handled this in the past but has respectfully asked not to this year. Officer Steele was given the responsibility but has since left the Police Department. Chief Laughlin recommended cancelling Night Out this year because he does not have the manpower to properly arrange the event. Commissioner Heilman said it's well attended and he'd hate to see it cancelled. He asked if the Hanover Borough Police Department could offer assistance. Chief Laughlin said other departments have not assisted in the past. Commissioner Heilman said it's advertised as the Hanover Night Out and it would be reasonable to ask the Borough to assist. Commissioner Felix said we're not even sure if the school is available on the August 2, 2016 event date. The Board discussed other locations. Chief Laughlin said the planning for this usually begins in January and it may be too late to organize the event

for this year. After discussion the Board asked Chief Laughlin to contact Hanover Borough Police Department to ask if they can help coordinate the event for 2016.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CONSOLIDATION UPDATE: Fire Chief Cromer reported that he met with the three volunteer fire companies on June 1, 2016. There was some contention due to a lack of information being shared. Chief Cromer went over the agreement with them and answered questions. The Volunteers were not happy with the name and he told them to suggest any changes they'd like to see made. The volunteers will meet on June 20, 2016 but have already left the impression that they are willing to move forward with the consolidation. Chief Cromer will also be attending a finance meeting at Hanover Borough to discuss the consolidation.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION: Fire Chief Cromer shared the history of the Penn Township Fire Department beginning in 1996. He reviewed the number of firefighters and what training they underwent to become firefighters. He reviewed staffing and different responsibilities the Fire Department has in the community. Chief Cromer reviewed overtime and payroll expenditures. He pointed out the amount of overtime due to medical leave and said it's to be expected as the firefighters get older. Commissioner Brown asked how to eliminate some of the overtime and Chief Cromer said hiring more firefighters would be the only option. He believes that we are in need of additional firefighters. The Board discussed scheduling of firefighters and the fire budget. Commissioner Felix thanked Chief Cromer.

BREEZEWOOD DRIVE TRAFFIC STUDY: Manager Rodgers asked Police Chief Laughlin to confirm that he reviewed the Breezewood Drive traffic study conducted by Assistant to the Engineer Garrett. Chief Laughlin reviewed the study and approves. Commissioner Van de Castle asked why the No Parking area isn't extended further. Chief Laughlin said they looked at it but feel parking further down will be fine.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Hallett
Township Secretary