

MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
JULY 5, 2016

The Penn Township Public Safety Committee convened on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. Present were Chairman Felix and Commissioners Brown, Klunk, Heilman, and Van de Castle. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Police Chief Laughlin, Fire Chief Cromer, Engineer Bortner, Zoning Officer Swanner, Assistant to the Engineer Garrett, and Township Secretary Hallett. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Felix read the announcements of the executive session held following the Board of Commissioners meeting on June 20, 2016. An executive session to discuss possible land acquisition and personnel matters was held on June 27th, 2016.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW TOWNSHIP EMPLOYEES: Manager Rodgers introduced Pat Costello and Richard Coleman as the Township's new Code Enforcement officers. Mr. Costello said he's live in Penn Township for twenty years and has spent close to forty years working in mortgage and financial services. He began working for the Township on June 15, 2016. Mr. Coleman said he's lived in Penn Township for four years and is looking forward to learning more about the Township through his new position. He started work today. Commissioner Felix welcomed them both and thanked them for attending the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the June 6, 2016 Public Safety Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

PROPOSED CROSSWALK 5000 BLOCK OF GRANDVIEW ROAD: Police Chief Laughlin reported that the Township worked with TRG, who was hired by St. Joseph's Catholic Church, on a traffic study. There is currently a mid-block crosswalk in the 5000 block of Grandview Road across from the church. The traffic study showed that a crosswalk is permissible at this location and proper signage and markings will be required. Commissioner Felix asked if the Township is financially responsible for the crosswalk. Township Manager Rodgers said she asked Solicitor Tilley and has not received an answer. Engineer Bortner said twenty-four inch white lines will cost around \$1,125 to install. Commissioner Felix read from Penn DOT publication 46 Section 11.9, Traffic Engineering Manual concerning midblock crosswalks on State highways. He said Section 215 212.5 says that installation and maintenance of pavement markings and signs are the responsibility of the Township.

Dan Ernst, St. Joseph Catholic Church, said they would like to move forward with their letter of credit this month. He asked when it needs to be in so the land development plan can be approved at the July Board of Commissioners meeting. Manager Rodgers said the church has already submitted an extension request because

the NPDES permit has not been received and the plan can't be approved until that's in. Mr. Ernst asked if the letter of credit could be approved because the permit is supposed to be in this week or next. Manager Rodgers said the permit and letter of credit have to be in by noon on July 13, 2016 for the plan to be approved this month. The Committee discussed the letter of credit and recommended the crosswalk be added so the letter can be approved.

Engineer Bortner said that he is not in favor of mid-block crosswalks. He would rather remove the crosswalk. Commissioner Felix asked what happens if the crosswalk is not there and someone gets hurt, since the traffic study advised the crosswalk be there. He believes there could be liability. Chief Laughlin said some of the neighbors may start sending their kids to the school and the crosswalk will be helpful. Chief Laughlin explained the difference between intersection crosswalks and midblock crosswalks. He said the installation of midblock crosswalks is very selective. Mr. Ernst said the crosswalk was installed in 2001 by Penn Township and it's been there ever since. The crosswalk is not presently being used. Commissioner Brown asked if St. Joseph needs the crosswalk. Mr. Ernst doesn't believe it's needed. Chief Laughlin said he recommends the crosswalk because there are no sidewalks. The Committee recommended installation of the crosswalk. If the pavement markings and signs for the crosswalk are paid for by the Township, the cost will be removed from the letter of credit the first time it's decreased.

Mr. Ernst had an additional request. He said a lot of people have been complaining about the speeders on Grandview Road. He asked if there could be more police presence, especially during the school year. Chief Laughlin said they are out there on a regular basis and will continue to be in the area.

YOUNG'S ROAD AND PARK HEIGHTS BLVD CURVE STUDIES: Police Chief Laughlin reported that Lieutenant Hettinger did some roadway studies with a gentleman from Penn DOT. The Penn DOT representative recommended proper signage for the curves. The Committee recommended installing the signs.

HIRING OF NEW POLICE OFFICER: Police Chief Laughlin reported that Derrick Malec went today for psychological testing. He has already passed all of his exams and needs to complete CPR and AED training. He was originally projected to start work on July 18, but it may be pushed back.

MDA BOOT DRIVE: Fire Chief Cromer read a letter from Greater Hanover Professional Firefighters Association requesting to hold their annual MDA boot drive. It will be held July 16 and August 27, 2016 from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. There is a rain date of September 3, 2016.

PLEASANT HILL FIREMAN'S CARNIVAL: Fire Chief Cromer read a letter dated June 22, 2016 from West Manheim Township requesting the assistance of Penn Township's Fire Police during the Pleasant Hill Fireman's Carnival to be held July 25 through July 30, 2016. The Committee recommended approval.

OTHER MATTERS: None

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Hallett
Township Secretary