

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Councilor Hall at 1830 Hrs.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Councilor Smeltz, Councilor Fahndrich, Councilor Hall, Mayor Bradley, and Police Chief Williams. Also present was Borough Manager Sam Sulkosky.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilor Fahndrich, seconded by Councilor Smeltz. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street thanked the Committee and the police on their response to firework calls during the holiday. Mr. Deering also asked about speed sign on Bruce Avenue and reported that a resident stated that the sign was not working. Chief Williams stated that the sign was removed and placed in another location. Mr. Deering also asked about monitoring the parking situation now that the new brewery on Main Street is opened. Mayor Bradley stated that the police do not target a particular business regarding parking. Mayor Bradley also stated that if problems arise and parking complaints are made, the parking will be addressed at that time. General parking enforcement will continue as well as the Parking Utilization Study.

Mike Melhorn, 612 West Main Street inquired if the Watch Children sign on Peach Alley between Clay Alley and Square Street can be removed because there are not any children living in the area and the sign impedes traffic because of placement. Councilor Hall stated that if the sign was placed due to an ordinance, the ordinance will have to be changed in order to remove the sign. Councilor Hall requested that Chief Williams research the sign to determine if it was placed by ordinance.

Mr. Melhorn also stated that he is not in favor of opening up parking on South Plum Street because trucks coming east and turning right onto Plum Street won't be able to make the corner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes for the Public Safety Committee meeting held on June 25, 2018 was made by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion seconded by Councilor Hall.
Motion carried unanimously.

FDMJ REPORT

No report

EMA REPORT

No report

SVEMS REPORT

No Report

OLD BUSINESS

Main Street Parking

Mayor Bradley stated that he did not receive any additions to the scope of work for the Parking Utilization Study. However, Columbia Avenue was removed from the study. Additionally, every cross street in the Main Street corridor a block back from Main Street has been added to the study. This will capture the parking in busier areas of the Borough. Private parking lots have also been included in the study.

Main & Marietta cross walk update

Councilor Smeltz reported that the State agreed to take traffic out Angle Street, turn right on 230, left turn on Manheim Street. Improvements to the intersection will be needed to realign the New Haven/Main/Manheim Streets intersection. Once this route is designated a State Route, it will receive a higher priority with the State to make changes to the route. With these changes, the Borough will be able to make changes to the Marietta/Main intersection which will not have to be approved by the State.

Facilities Use Form

No update.

Speeding on Bruce Ave & Birchland Ave

Chief Williams reported that the Radar Speed signs were set up on Birchland Avenue in response to a Citizen complaint. Birchland Avenue sign was up for four weeks and recorded over 11,000 vehicles, with only 33 vehicles traveling over the speed limit that could have been cited for speeding.

2018 Car Show

Chief Williams reported that approval from PennDOT to close the streets for the Car Show has been received. The ISP will be sent out to all interested parties.

NEW BUSINESS

NIMS

Councilor Hall received responses regarding current training levels of personnel from all departments and will be sending out a report to all members. The Fire Company and the Police Department have the most extensive levels of training. Councilor Hall will work with the Emergency Management Director to determine training needs. Plans to schedule training will be made based on current needs. Mayor Bradley stated that Fire Department, Police Department, and Public Works will be the departments that respond to incidents most often. Record keeping during Incidents is important because the Borough can be reimbursed for expenditures as a result of the emergency.

New Vehicle

Chief Williams reported that the new police car has been delivered and is being outfitted with hardware and equipment. The new car should be in service by the end of the month.

2019 Budget Request

Chief Williams provided the committee with a preliminary 2019 Budget. Chief Williams pointed out that due to the County ending support for the police, he included money in the budget to fund a new RMS system and associated hardware/network costs. Chief Williams will be applying for a grant which opens in September which will help fund the project.

Chief Williams also discussed an on-line service that will monitor policies, training of personnel, and Case Law/Legislative changes. The service will date/time stamp when personnel read policies and tracks activity. Councilor Smeltz stated that this is a good way to insure that personnel are aware of any changes to the policy as well as protecting the Borough and recommends it be considered for the 2019 budget.

PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street, discussed if all speeding traffic from the study on Birchland could have been cited. Chief Williams stated that only traffic traveling ten miles over the posted speed limit can be cited. Traffic traveling over the posted speed limit but not speeding more than ten miles an hour cannot be cited.

Mr. Deering asked about a dip in the street on Lumber Street. The committee stated that this issue should be taken to the Public Works Meeting.

Joan Kinsey, 900 West Main Street stated that the traffic cones on Plum Street blew away during a storm and she has them in her yard. Councilor Hall will contact Public Works Director Dennis Nissley for the results of the study he conducted on that street.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS

The committee went into Executive Session at 1954 Hrs.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2019 Hrs. Councilor Smeltz made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Susan Birchall