

## **Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

**November 25, 2024**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Councilor Eichler at 18:33 Hrs.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present were: Councilor Crider, Councilor Eichler, Mayor Bradley (via Zoom; later attended in person), Chief Goshen and Borough Manager Pugliese. Councilor Fahndrich was absent.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for November 25, 2024 as presented was made by Councilor Crider; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Dominic Castaldi, 1059 Reagan Street and former member of this Committee. He is here on behalf of Florin Hill and was wondering if this committee would be discussing the parking/parking enforcement in the development prior to the dedication of the streets. Chief Goshen explained that at some point, it would come up, however there is too much work to be done before the adoption of the streets. Also, prior to the adoption of any roadways, the best practice would be for both traffic and parking studies to be completed. It would come before this Committee for consideration and he anticipates he will be told to do the studies. At that time as part of the study, they will interview both apartment tenants and home owners. It will take several days/weeks for that to happen. Manager Pugliese stated that the majority of improvements in Phase Three has to be done before consideration due to the heavy construction equipment, etc.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Minutes from the October 28, 2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting was made by Councilor Crider; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes from the October 28, 2024 meeting have been approved.

### **FDMJ REPORT**

FDMJ Chief Brett Hamm presented his report for October which was included in the packet. They responded to fifty-three calls for the month of October 2024; four hundred eighty-two calls so far in 2024. Time in service was thirty-two hours and fifty minutes. Calls were every fifteen hours and nine minutes. They averaged 10.13 members per call for the month. The average response time in October was four minutes and seven seconds with an average arrival time to the scene of six minutes and two seconds. Total training for the month was one hundred twenty-seven members trained for a total of two hundred sixty-three hours for October. There

were thirty-seven first due alarms; eighteen in the Borough, fourteen in Rapho Township, one in Mount Joy Township and four in East Donegal Township and sixteen mutual aids. There were no notable fires in October. FDMJ provided fire prevention presentations at Donegal Primary and Kraybill Mennonite Schools to over six hundred students and faculty. The public/community service details for the month, included participation in Mount Joy Borough Spooktacular, LCBC Trunk or Treat, Mount Joy Borough Halloween Trick or Treat night events. Fire police provided traffic control for two Donegal High School football games, Janus School 5K event, Elizabethtown College Homecoming Parade and the Manheim Farm Show parade. Member activity other than training and calls for the month, documented six hundred nineteen hours of public safety activities, administrative duties, station and apparatus maintenance, fire police service activity and duty crews. Standard meetings for the month included: Board of Fire Command Officers (BOFCO), Executive Board and monthly membership business meeting. They held their semi-annual Recruiting Open House. The new traffic unit has arrived and should be out in a week or two. The new squad should be arriving soon; best case by the end of the year or early next year.

### **EMA REPORT**

Phil Colvin reviewed his summary report for October which was included in the packet. The situation with the Red Flag Warnings for the County has gotten better with the rain but it still pretty dry. We still haven't heard anything about the stream gauge. He will follow up. Winterfest planning is ongoing and the Event Support Plan should be completed by the end of this week. He is still working on updating the Emergency Operations Plan and as we get closer to Memorial Day, he will work with the organizers to work through some things. Nothing notable on Election Day. During the past month, he did a walk-thru at 101 West Main Street, La Pierre house, with Brett Hamm and an engineer from PA Task Force 1, who specializes in structural collapse. We had him look at it for his opinion; should just fall straight down and not out. The biggest problem will be the west side where it is bellied out. Roof structure will stay together when it comes down. He will put together an Incident Action Plan in case anything happens. We could have a lot of bricks on Main and Manheim Streets. You won't see a total collapse. It will take some shoring pretty quickly. Brett Hamm relayed that the owner is still working with contractors and the original engineer who started this whole process with the Borough. We have reached out to Rettew for a building engineer to get a Borough engineer opinion. He was there on Friday for a couple hours; still waiting for his report. The owner does not have a plan but he is cooperating and doing what he can, as fast as he can. Brett Hamm also got the owner in touch with the Borough's engineer. It will take significant work and money to fix it.

### **PSH LIFE LION REPORT**

Scott Buchle, Director, Penn State Health Life Lion, was in attendance and reviewed the report for October. There were one hundred sixty-six 911 incidents in the Borough with about one thousand seventy-two incidents in Lancaster County. There were fifty-nine incidents covered in the Borough with nineteen that were either covered by/assisted by mutual aid EMS. Penn State Life Lion responded to one hundred forty-nine other 911 incidents in total in October in municipalities that were not primarily theirs; this is the number they started giving all municipalities. Last month, they talked about staffing shortage. EMT class is going well; they have three for the Lancaster region, one Advanced EMT and two EMTs that are cleared and are

on the street now. Three weeks ago, they started to using additional resources from Penn State Life Lion Hershey to assist here in Lancaster as well. They are primarily running out of the West Hempfield station which is giving them some relief to keep this unit in the Borough, so they are seeing some progress with that. They talked about the health system making an investment in their staff so they are rolling out this week, EMTs, Advanced EMTs and Paramedics are getting a twelve percent raise market adjustment, in their next pay. Hopefully that will help with retention and recruitment. He feels that staffing model will continue to be up and down. They are a busy agency.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Formal Process for Committee Communication on Capital Projects  
Chief Goshen stated that this is still being worked on.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Brew-Fest Proposal for Spring 2025 (Voyage Mount Joy)  
Allory Melhorn, Voyage Mount Joy, Event Coordinator and Justin Hoak, Yah Brew, presented a proposal to bring a new event to Mount Joy - a Brew Fest in Spring of 2025. The event, Fresh Brews of Mount Joy, a 90's themed brew festival that would be hosted by Voyage Mount Joy and Yah Brewing Company. They have a target date of Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 1pm to 5pm to be held on Main Street at the intersections of Market Street and Marietta Avenue, to include Delta Street. They are hoping for about seventy-five breweries and food vendors. They are planning on having live entertainment. They met with Chief Goshen who discussed boundaries such as a snow fence to create the area and gauge who is coming into the area. The event will be twenty-one years of age and older. They will be selling two different tickets online; one will be a general admission ticket for those wishing to enjoy the brews and the other a designated driver ticket. The online ticket will be presented at the registration booth; green wristband for general admission and red wristband for the designated driver. They are planning to do a plastic souvenir cup which will be given at the registration table. They will have portable restrooms throughout the event. They will have police officer presence at their expense. They are planning on giving a portion of the proceeds to a non-profit, currently in talks with Donegal Athletic Club; what is left will help cover the event and any profits leftover will go to Voyage Mount Joy and Yah Brew. Councilor Eichler questioned Chief Goshen about street closure and he had figured out two hours on either side, from 11am to 7pm, for set up and tear down. Mayor Bradley loves new ideas. His concern were the residents that live within that area. Justin Hoak explained that the snow fence would segregate the public sidewalks from accessing to the street. So pedestrian foot traffic would remain unaffected. The snow fence would be tied to poles. The entrance would be at Delta Street. They are also promoting Amtrak train travel. Chief Goshen is going to reach out to Wilsbach Distributors to see if they could offer any 'Decide to Ride' vouchers and perhaps Amtrak can put in some monetary assistance. You must have a wristband to access from the sidewalk. Councilor Eichler questioned the location of the live music. They are thinking two separate acts at each end if they are a solo performer or if it is a local band with multiple instruments, they would be located on Delta Street, due to acoustics. He also inquired about where Justin Hoak did this event before. He explained that he did one in Middletown, near Tattered

Flag using snow fencing with municipal barricades, which was well received, assisted with one in Bethlehem and consulted with one in Lancaster City. Mayor Bradley questioned other breweries in Mount Joy. They are anticipating fifty to sixty different breweries, regionally and nationally. Anyone in town is welcome to participate (Bube's, Twisted Bine), as well. He consulted with Sheetz Funeral Home and Marietta Notary which is the reason for the later start time by one hour. Both Mayor Bradley and Chief Goshen think it is a great event and should be moved to full Council for thoughts/discussion. As stated previously, Chief Goshen met with them and they are aware of the Borough's fee schedule and are prepared to cover those expenses. A motion to move to full Council for further discussion and possible approval the Brew Fest on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 1pm to 5pm was made by Councilor Crider; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Delta Street Parking Study

This parking study was requested by Mayor Bradley due to the narrowness of Delta Street and the near misses we are having with traffic facing each other. This was Sergeant Reed's first parking study after completing all the necessary classes. Essentially the width of the street does not support parking, moreover, under recommendations, after Sergeant Reed completed the measurements, parking on the east side of Delta Street should be prohibited completely due to the width of the roadway and the two parking spots on the west side of Delta Street, which are actually bump outs for Sheetz parking lot are specifically designed for parking. The sign that is there is not covered by any Borough ordinance; have not gotten a straight answer as to how that sign came to be and placed there. However, the recommendation is to pull those parking spots under the current Borough ordinance 255.66 which is our downtown investment district parking area which stipulates parking Monday through Saturday from 8am to 8pm is only a two-hour parking limit. Mayor Bradley mentioned on that street, the two recessed parking spots are marked two-hour parking and oddly enough, the other side (east) of Delta Street, you can park 24/7 while the rest of the parking around is two-hour parking. There doesn't seem to be any logical coherence to what is going on there. When it is all parked up, two cars cannot pass each other. Manager Pugliese reminded the Committee that in order to obtain an occupancy permit for the apartment building, the owner had to rent six parking spaces from train station's parking lot; not the daily one, to meet parking requirements. Chief Goshen is aware who is parking there and to what Manager Pugliese stated, they are utilizing the train lot that is on the north side of Henry Street that is directly behind the building. That is what the agreement was for that parking. Also, keep in mind that the Borough does have a public lot behind Sheetz that we encourage people to park there, rather than parking on the street. There are other parts of town, particularly down toward Marietta Avenue where he could articulate an argument that there isn't sufficient parking, however you are less than half block from two parking lots that you can park for free for as long as you like to, so alleviating the parking on the east side of the street is of no impact and is in keeping with the design of the roadway. Councilor Eichler thanked Sergeant Reed for the study and was in favor of moving this on. Chief Goshen explained that the changes would be two-fold; elimination of parking by Ordinance on the east side of the roadway and also those two parking spots would have to be annotated to fall under our current downtown parking limits. A motion to move to full Council the Delta Street Traffic Study for consideration to pass an Ordinance to eliminate parking on the east side and initiate

two-hour parking on the west side for the two parking spots was made by Councilor Crider; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Justin Hoak, 20 East Main Street and owner of Yah Brew, is in complete agreement with eliminating the two parking spaces on the east side of Delta Street. There would be no impact on his ability to do business. He cannot speak on behalf of Sheetz as they usually line cars up there for processions, but it is mostly residents that park there and should be utilizing the lot out back. He has no issue with it.

### **ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

Chief Goshen reviewed the results of the Aggressive Driving Enforcement Wave One for the period of October 21, 2024 through November 10, 2024. This is one of the grants utilized through PennDOT. There was a total of twenty-nine contacts; sixteen summary citations issued and fourteen written warnings. Most of the written warnings are for equipment violations which they have five days to correct.

Chief Goshen discussed his concern with the impromptu parades through the Borough that have been occurring; most recently on November 2, 2024 and November 18, 2024. The first one was for the band; second one for the cheerleaders. These impromptu parades are not passing through this Committee and he is unaware that are occurring. FDMJ is getting asked at the eleventh hour to provide a unit for the procession. Last year we had an issue with the band doing this. On November 2, 2024, we came very close to having an accident on Main Street because someone wasn't paying attention and someone braked suddenly because they saw the procession coming through. Chief Goshen would like to go to the school district and meet with the new Superintendent and explain what is happening. It is a matter of time before we do have a traffic accident and there is potential for someone getting hurt, in addition to property damage. These parades need to be formally driven out and we are not going to entertain this type of behavior. It is inherently dangerous involving school buses and private vehicles. The police department is not always staffed to accommodate them. Mayor Bradley explained that this behavior started mid to late 2000's with a couple state championships. It is a liability for the fire department to go through town with lights and sirens on and now there is a vehicle accident and they are not using it for emergencies. It also puts pressure on FDMJ to say 'yes or no'. If there are things that are going to be done, then it needs to go through a more formal process; it cannot be impromptu; too chaotic. Chief Goshen said that even if we get a two-week notice, we have the opportunity to say 'yes or no' and he has the opportunity to call someone in on overtime to manage the event. He doesn't pull an officer off the streets. Manager Pugliese relayed that some of these activities have more than one competition. He suggests we authorize Chief Goshen to speak with the Superintendent and bring back the discussion to the Committee and take it from there.

Mayor Bradley is concerned about the technological issue we are having lately with Zoom and was wondering if the system has been checked. Manager Pugliese said it was checked last week by 12:34 and was told it was not an issue with the computer; it's an issue with the other equipment. Basically, it has to function in a certain order for it to work and if it doesn't do that, it does not work. He explained that we do need a new computer because the current one

cannot be upgraded to Windows 11. This problem just recently manifested. Mayor Bradley wanted Edge Up contacted again.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL/LEGAL MATTERS**

An Executive Session was not held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 19:41 Hrs. Councilor Crider made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis