

## **Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

**July 22, 2024**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Councilor Fahndrich at 18:30 Hrs.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present were: Councilor Fahndrich, Councilor Crider, Councilor Eichler, Mayor Bradley (via Zoom), Chief Goshen and Borough Manager Pugliese.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for July 22, 2024 as presented was made by Councilor Crider; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Dave Weiser, 616 Water Street, questioned the number of license plate readers and tint meter readers that the police department has in use/owns. Chief Goshen stated that the department does not have any license plate readers due to the cost associated to purchase them. Mayor Bradley explained that years ago, PennDOT wanted us to patrol the parking lots and they were going to purchase license plate readers. Manager Pugliese explained that the Borough was going to patrol the Amtrak lot with the new train station so they were going to purchase them, but changed course and put in a paid parking lot. Additionally, when PennDOT got rid of the registration stickers on the license plates, they were going to save millions of dollars and were going to give money to municipal police departments to purchase the license plate readers but they found other uses for that money. Dave Weiser also questioned how he can find accurate data to see how well the department is doing. Also, he doesn't feel the police department is proactively patrolling for DUI enforcement.

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street, is interested in the discussion on permit parking for downtown business owners and employees.

Dave Astuto, 311 North Barbara Street and 47 East Main Street, put a proposal together for business permit parking on Main Street and submitted it to Chief Goshen and is interested in hearing what everyone has to say about it.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Minutes from the June 24, 2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting as presented was made by Councilor Eichler; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes from the June 24, 2024 meeting have been approved.

## **FDMJ REPORT**

FDMJ Chief Brett Hamm presented his report for June which was included in the packet. They responded to fifty-eight calls for the month of June 2024; two hundred eighty-three calls so far in 2024. Time in service was fifty hours and forty-six minutes. Calls were every fifteen hours and twenty minutes. They averaged nine members per call for the month. The average response time in June was unavailable. Total man hours were unavailable. Total training hours for June were two hundred fifty-three- and one-half hours with one hundred thirteen members trained. The unavailable statistics is due to the new firehouse software program. There were forty-three first due alarms with fifteen mutual aids; twenty-seven in the Borough, seven in Rapho Township, five in Mount Joy Township and four in East Donegal Township. There were two notable fires in June which resulted in a \$305,000.00 loss in Mount Joy Borough. FDMJ did not have any fire prevention details. The community service details for the month included four duty crews, public education presentation at Milanof-Schock library event, traffic control for four events, standby/crew for Lancaster Township Fire Department and held open house recruitment day. The new battery power hydraulic rescue tools were placed in service and working well. He should have the draft budget by August 12, 2024. You should be receiving invitations for the elected official presentation that is planned for August 17, 2024. Councilor Eichler questioned who maintains the drafting site signs. Chief Hamm is coming up with a plan to replace/repair signs. They have all been surveyed.

## **EMA REPORT**

Phil Colvin was in attendance and reviewed his summary report for June. He submitted the mitigation projects from the Borough, Public Works and Water and Sewer Authority to the County. He received a copy of the Emergency Operations Plan and will begin to update it; needs to be updated every two years. He met with FDMJ Fire Police, Chief Goshen and the event organizer for the upcoming car show this weekend. The rain gauge is still not working.

## **PSH LIFE LION REPORT**

Scott Buchle, Director, Penn State Health Life Lion, was in attendance and reviewed the report. They are in the process of updating the reports at the request of several municipalities. They are trying to illustrate everywhere else they go as that has come up regarding mutual aid that will be discussed later. There were 57 – 911 calls in Mount Joy Borough; 102 calls they went somewhere else; 36 calls Mount Joy responded to non-Life Lion areas. Overall, they have a seven-minute response time for both emergency and non-emergency calls which meets the national response time. In the grayed-out chart, it shows a graphical breakdown of call volume – red line represents the number of calls in Mount Joy Borough, the blue line represents the number of calls that the primary unit handled in Mount Joy Borough and the green line represents the number of mutual aid calls. By our count, this is the number of calls that a neighboring unit had to come into Mount Joy Borough to cover for us. The monthly report they get from County has discrepancies; several times it shows we did not handle a call - that we missed it, but we have a report/encounter for it. He understands it has been a long-standing issue with County as well. The other thing they are running into is by our count, this is the number of times that we can see a neighboring unit had to come in and cover the call

exclusively by themselves without any support from Penn State Life Lion. We are running into this debate now as to what is a missed call. So, if a Penn State Life Lion is on scene but a neighboring unit comes to assist, by Penn State's standards, that is not a missed call because there is a Penn State Life Lion unit present. For example, if Penn State's BLS is on scene and a neighboring Paramedic comes in, we were still on the call. However, they count the call as having to cover for us; same thing we do for them; it is not considered a missed call. Mount Joy Borough is staffed 98% to 100% of the time. However, he stated in the past four-six weeks, they have lost ten EMTs; either going to school or moving to another state. He is looking to run another EMT class in the fall but they still only have a 50% retention rate. It takes ten to twelve weeks to run a class. They usually have an 85% pass rate on the national test for EMT certification. Councilor Fahndrich questioned the pass and retention rates between Penn State students and HACC students. Councilor Eichler questioned if ride-a-longs were part of the process, which they are per Scott, about four weeks into the class, Fridays are clinical days. Scott has reached out to Lancaster County about stacking non-emergency calls but they are reluctant to do so. Lancaster County won't move on this until they hired a new Public Safety Director in the fall and will look into it at that time. There is a regional initiative to do this. Mayor Bradley questioned whether or not conversation regarding billing for missed calls is being discussed at the EMS Council. Scott stated they it is not being discussed because EMS Council really doesn't get involved with billing. If two units respond to a call, depending on the level of response, they are allowed to bill based on certain CMS/Medicare criteria. The transporting unit gets reimbursed at a higher level. Mayor Bradley was more specific with his question regarding whether or not billing other municipalities for services provided has come up within EMS Council at all. Scott stated it has not and that relationship is strictly between the EMS provider and their municipality. Mayor Bradley also questioned as to whether or not Penn State Life Lion has had any conversation at their level regarding billing municipalities that they go into to assist. Scott said they had not and had no plans to do that anytime soon, however we have to see how the landscape changes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. MESA Intent to Bill for Services

Councilor Fahndrich reviewed the letter and wanted to hear comments on the letter. Scott Buchle explained that to his knowledge, the only municipalities that received this letter are the Penn State Life Lion contracted municipalities. Overall, the numbers do not match and are working with County for assistance, both from a missed call point of view and the way County splits up the municipalities for ALS. Mount Joy Township is MESA territory, however there is a tiny sliver that is Penn State Life Lion so that creates a problem when putting these numbers together. All of Rapho Township is Penn State Life Lion except a tiny sliver that belongs to Warwick. Kim Keener, their Business Manager, has spent a great deal of time looking at the calls. From what they can see, it looks like a fair number of them both units responded to the calls. In Pennsylvania, they now have Intermediate units who are advanced EMTs that can provide ALS level but do not totally have a Paramedic scope of practice. Many of the EMS agencies, including Penn State Life Lion, are staffing with intermediate EMTs because of the Paramedic

shortage. However, the way County dispatches it, if an Intermediate unit responds to a call, they still send a Paramedic unit in case a Paramedic is needed. A fair amount of time, the Paramedic unit is cancelled by the Intermediate unit either when they get there or enroute because it can be handled within their scope of practice. He draws a parallel to Intermediate and Paramedics - similar to LPN and RN. So, all this factors into the numbers as well. They have always had a great working relationship with Northwest, but there has been a leadership change at MESA. Scott has a meeting scheduled with his direct report. They have no plans to bill any other EMS group. This could change the dynamics of emergency services/mutual aid. Overall, he feels EMS needs a better funding method.

Manager Pugliese passed the letter to our Solicitor who was sending a letter to MESA requesting legal precedence to permit this and will be drafting a letter to Council. He had another Manager reach out to him who has received the same letter.

Mayor Bradley agreed with Manager Pugliese's response. He also feels that other affected municipalities should get together. Emergency services go beyond EMS to police, fire, etc. so it is premature to have any additional conversation until we see the legal implication and what steps we are going to take. We need to let legal counsel handle this and have Manager Pugliese meet with neighboring jurisdictions.

Councilor Fandrich made a motion to move the MESA Intent to Bill for Services letter to full Council for discussion; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion carried unanimously.

b. DUI/Pedestrian Enforcement Reports

Reports were provided in packet. Councilor Eichler noted that the DUI letter should reflect Independence Day roving and not Labor Day.

c. Business Owner Parking Permit Proposal

Councilor Fahndrich reviewed the letter/proposal from David Astuto to Chief Goshen that is in the packet. There are comments in previous minutes. She questioned Brett Hamm about whether or not there are commercial/business parameters when it comes to parking. From his knowledge, only residential rental properties have specific parking requirements in the ordinance. She feels this proposal moves the Borough parking issue backwards and referenced that Main Street Mount Joy did a survey a while back. She is not in favor of the request but is willing to move it to full Council.

Councilor Eichler wondered what other municipalities have in place for business parking.

Councilor Crider agreed that we shouldn't change our parking but should still look into other municipalities, but said that if he owned a business, he would not park out front; he would want it empty and available for patrons.

Mayor Bradley is highly opposed to it for numerous reasons. No benefit to the business community other than to provide convenience for the business owner to get in/out of their store. Parking is for patrons. The next issue could come from landlords who want additional parking for their tenants because some renters may have more than one or two drivers. Several years ago, business owners complained because residences and apartment units were parking on Main Street taking up available parking which upset the business owners because there was no parking for patrons.

Councilor Eichler appreciated the Mayor's comments as it enlightened him on the history of leading up to where we are today with parking.

Councilor Crider is aware that this particular business has parking in the rear.

Councilor Fahndrich made a motion to approve the initial proposal for a parking permit for businesses. Motion dies due to lack of second.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

None.

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

Manager Pugliese received correspondence that next year's Make-A-Wish truck convoy will be held on a Saturday not Sunday. It will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2025 (not Mother's Day).

Manager Pugliese reminded the committee that this Friday is fourth Friday and also there is Music in the Park on Friday evening, July 26, 2024 and Sunday July 28, 2024. Also, the Cruisin Car Show & Cuisine is Saturday, July 27, 2024.

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

An Executive Session was not held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 19:49 Hrs. Councilor Eichler made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis