

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

August 26, 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, Chief Goshen and Borough Manager Pugliese.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for August 26, 2024 as presented was made by Councilor Eichler; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Bruce Haigh, Borough Council, West Ward presented pictures regarding 300 South Market Street, where Public Works just put in new handicap ramps last year. At the time, Public Works didn't know what they were going to do with South Market Avenue so they did not extend the curb. There are two cars that park so they are blocking the sidewalk. If you go down Wood Street on that property, there is parking available on Wood Street for two or three cars. He would like Public Safety to look at it; not sure what to do; no parking signs 'here to corner', etc. Fifty percent of the time there is at least one car blocking the sidewalk. Councilor Eichler mentioned Pinkerton exception. Chief Goshen is aware of the situation. One of the vehicles has already been issued two tickets so the officers are aware and taking enforcement action. Chief Goshen plans to go down and talk to the owners in person. He is hoping for some compliance that way. The long-term solution requires an engineering fix. There should be a curb and sidewalk that extends the length of Market Street so that would eliminate the issue so then there would have to be a curb cut out for a driveway. If someone is mobility impaired, that person would have some issues getting around. Mayor Bradley questioned the standard distance from stop sign to the road you enter into. Chief Goshen explained that there isn't a fixed standard as it pertains to that. The rules of the road stipulate that you are you stop at the stop sign or stop line and then proceed up to the intersection where you can safely see both directions before you enter or cross the road. Mayor Bradley doesn't feel he is parking on a sidewalk because a sidewalk was never installed. It needs to be identified as a sidewalk. He would like us to accommodate the homeowner as much as possible. Bruce Haigh commented that you have a defined sidewalk with the handicap ramp and you have a defined sidewalk in concrete at the next house. Councilor Crider said that walking it, feels like there might be concrete under the blacktop. He explained that the resident is fairly new to the neighborhood. Chief Goshen explained that Codes stipulates it is supposed to be concrete or brick but this is pre-existing so not sure how long it has been there. The way it follows with parking

enforcement is what is implied so if it was grass and you had a handicap sign on the Wood Street side coming into grass, through that area which would be his yard and the sidewalk picks up again, you could articulate that there isn't a sidewalk there. The fact that it is blacktopped and has been there a substantial amount of time, it is implied that it is a sidewalk so I am confident about the enforcement side of it. But with the overall road project, Chief Goshen is happy to sit down with Dennis Nissley to hash out the signage which is best practice anyhow to get it figured out before we get too far into the project. Bruce Haigh explained that curbing isn't going to happen on South Market Avenue until about 2029 so we need to figure out what we are going to do for the next five years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes from the July 22, 2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting as presented was made by Councilor Eichler; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes from the July 22, 2024 meeting have been approved.

FDMJ REPORT

FDMJ Chief Brett Hamm presented his report for July which was included in the packet. They responded to sixty-two calls for the month of July 2024; three hundred forty-five calls so far in 2024. Time in service was thirty hours and one minute. Calls were every fourteen hours and forty-five minutes. They averaged eight members per call for the month. The average response time in July was four minutes and forty-six seconds with an average arrival time of twelve minutes and seven seconds. Total man hours were unavailable due to the new firehouse software program. Total training hours for July were three hundred seventy hours and ten minutes with one hundred thirty-seven members trained. There were forty first due alarms with twenty-two mutual aids; twenty-three in the Borough, fourteen in Rapho Township, zero in Mount Joy Township and three in East Donegal Township. There were no notable fires in July. FDMJ did one public education detail at the fire station and did an inhouse fire presentation to home school students. The community service details for the month included assisting the American Legion and Donegal Mutual with restringing flag poles, the fire police supported the Borough car show and members modified compartments of E75-2 to install the new battery-operated hydraulic vehicle rescue tools. Councilor Crider inquired how the new tools were working. Chief Hamm said they are much more user friendly; doesn't require as much manpower to operate. Councilor Fahndrich inquired on how the event went. Chief Hamm explained that the turnout wasn't great; four came from the Borough and one State Representative attended, however it was well received by the group that did attend. Moving forward he would like to do this every three to four years.

EMA REPORT

Phil Colvin was in attendance and reviewed his summary report for July. The Hazardous Mitigation Plan is coming to an end. He will give share what he submitted with the committee. He is still working on the Emergency Operations Plan. We had some significant weather events over the past month but nothing that impacted the Borough. He did work on the Mount Joy stream gauge at Chiques. It is working but it needs a new pressure device in the water. It has been in there since they replaced the bridge. He is working with the County to see if they are going to replace it since it is County owned. He will update the Committee once he hears back.

PSH LIFE LION REPORT

Scott Buchle, Director, Penn State Health Life Lion, was in attendance and reviewed the report. There were forty-three 911 calls in the Borough with one hundred ten total calls in Lancaster County. For the month of July, the number of times mutual aid was needed to cover bumped up a little from fourteen to eighteen. Staffing continues to be a challenge but their virtual job fair brought them two new people who started today. They have ten applicants for the next EMT training. Mayor Bradley discussed some concerns he had about the report. Chief Goshen questioned Class 4 calls and backup response to those types of calls was discussed. Chief Goshen will forward any questions he has regarding calls to Scott Buchle. Mutual aid and how calls are handled was discussed. Scott Buchle explained they have a situation that they are monitoring in that Lancaster General Hospital now has a physician response unit which is self-dispatching to any calls they wish. Usually, the response is to higher acuity calls. In any Penn State Health Life Lion area, they are not to respond unless requested by Penn State Health Life Lion. EMS Council is looking to address this with the County to set up some guidelines. They will address the issue when they have the new Safety Director in place.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. None

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Mount Joy Spooktacular Road Closure 10/26/24 4:00pm to 9:00pm
Chief Goshen submitted in the road closure request from the Mount Joy Area Chamber of Commerce for Mount Joy Spooktacular, previously called Fall Fest. The request is for the roadway to be closed down for vehicular travel from Main Street from Market to Barbara Streets from 4pm to 9pm on the day of the event. Mayor Bradley feels the roadway should be shut down at New Haven Street or wherever the scope of downtown trick or treat is to happen. Participants must be within the block of the road closure. Chief Goshen will reaffirm that all participants are within the barricaded area. Councilor Fahndrich made a motion to move the Mount Joy Chamber of Commerce request for road closure on October 26, 2024 from 4:00pm to 9:00pm as presented to full Council; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Fire Police Events
Chief Goshen reviewed the fire police events that were provided in the packet. The events are as follows: assist with Donegal Football traffic control on August 30, September 13 and 27, October 18 and 25; assist with Mastersonville Fire Department 75th anniversary event on September 14; Lancaster Airport Community Days on September 7 and 8; Elizabethtown Fair from August 19-24, which has passed; and Manheim Farm Show Parade on October 9. Mayor Bradley was under the impression that we gave the authority to the Fire Chief and if he signs off on them, they are just informational pieces for us; streamlines the process. Councilor Eichler made a motion to move the Fire Police events to full Council; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Borough Sanctioned Events

Chief Goshen explained that there was some confusion that came up regarding COL and Borough events. He provided a list of five events that historically have been part of Mount Joy. These are also the events that at one time, the Borough had an organization that was responsible for planning/organizing these events. Last year, we instituted a fee schedule to cover costs associated with equipment, Public Works personnel, Police Officers, utilization of facilities and that is in line with other municipalities. For this year, we had to get things straightened out with the Borough for all those costs that they would be held accountable for. The proposal is what we think would be most beneficial for the Borough and strictly applied for just these five events to not make money so if we applied the fee schedule to them, the events would not happen. We would provide our COL to PennDOT to close the road and then the event organizer would have to provide their COL for the Borough for the specific event. Utilizing the Borough's COL covers a couple of things; Chief Goshen can put in the applications at the beginning of the year; the Borough would retain the autonomy to control the event to a degree because of the issuance of the permit. For these particular events, they would not be subject to our fee schedule. Mayor Bradley feels that four of these events would be more celebratory/memorial type events that would be in keeping with a town celebration and is highly in favor of them. While he is a huge fan of the car show, he feels it is a fundraiser that in recent times, has been utilized to help fund some non-profits within the Borough that do some noble causes. He is not trying to end that funding stream but we need to be very careful that we are not opening doors. If it is a Borough event, the Borough needs to be involved in the planning process, outside of the Emergency Operations Plan. The Borough does not select or have any voice as to where that money goes. It is not the responsibility of the tax payers in the Borough to subsidize through their tax dollars to fundraising of another organization. He wonders if there could be three categories to include a reduced fee schedule. It would be done on a case-by-case basis. Chief Goshen understands Mayor Bradley's point of view. The Borough sanctioned events do allow the Borough to participate in the planning and the ability to exercise some control over the events, particularly when it comes to whether or not we are going to permit alcohol at these types of events and prevent other types of vendors. Our fee schedule could become cost preventative with some of the organizations. The pavilions are very reasonable. We need to keep in mind that with the mass improvements to the parks, they are going to become premium spots. Mayor Bradley feels that we need to have a third category for fundraising type events that might be at a reduced fee schedule and that would be the Borough's way of contributing to the event. Councilor Fahndrich continued discussion on each individual event. Chief Goshen needs approval for the road closure for Fall Fest. COL for WinterFest is already addressed and Chief Goshen will move Mayor Bradley's concerns to Old Business at our next meeting. Manager Pugliese mentioned that in the 2024 budget, there was \$1250.00 earmarked for the car show and WinterFest. The car show did not ask for the full amount of money but asked for the Borough to pay for the portable toilets. He was not sure what they were going to ask for WinterFest; perhaps the same thing or ask for the full \$1250.00. It kind of makes for an unusual circumstance, if you take the car show and give them \$1250.00 and then ask for \$500.00 back for the application. Just something to keep in mind. Mayor Bradley feels that if you need \$1000.00 from the Borough to cover portable toilets, you should charge more to have people come into the show. That is part of the cost to do the event. It

shouldn't cost the Borough anymore to cover these events. It should only cost the Borough all of the free labor, machinery, road signage, barricades, etc. He doesn't feel the Borough needs to get into the business of paying for the events themselves to take place. That is the responsibility of the organization holding the event. There needs to be consistency. Manager Pugliese explained that Rachel Stebbins has been attending many of these meetings. It is part of her official duties as liaison between organizations and the Borough.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL/LEGAL MATTERS

An Executive Session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

At 20:05 Hrs. Councilor Eichler made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Crider. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis