

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present were: Councilor Crider, Councilor Eichler, Mayor Bradley, Chief Goshen and Borough Manager Pugliese. Councilor Fahndrich was absent.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for September 23, 2024 as presented was made by Councilor Crider; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes from the August 26, 2024 Public Safety Committee Meeting as presented was made by Councilor Crider; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes from the August 26, 2024 meeting have been approved.

FDMJ REPORT

FDMJ Chief Brett Hamm presented his report for August which was included in the packet. They responded to forty-six calls for the month of August 2024; three hundred ninety-one calls so far in 2024. Time in service was twenty-one hours and seven minutes. Calls were every fourteen hours and fifty-four minutes. They averaged eight members per call for the month. The average response time in August was four minutes and thirty-four seconds with an average arrival time of nine minutes and fifty-five seconds. New statistic this month...total man hours were one hundred fifty-seven hours and ten minutes. Total training hours for August were one hundred sixty-two hours and fifteen minutes. There were thirty first due alarms with sixteen mutual aids; eleven in the Borough, thirteen in Rapho Township, one in Mount Joy Township and five in East Donegal Township. There were no notable fires in August. FDMJ did one public education detail at the fire station which was an inhouse fire prevention presentation to home school students. The community service details for the month included ten Duty Crews, one station work detail, numerous public service details including Donegal High School Football games, Lancaster Car Show, and the Elizabethtown Fair.

EMA REPORT

Phil Colvin was not in attendance but his summary report for August was included in the packet.

PSH LIFE LION REPORT

Scott Buchle, Director, Penn State Health Life Lion, was not in attendance but Kim Keene, Business Manager, Penn State Health Life Lion attended and reviewed the report. There were fifty-six 911 calls in the Borough with ninety-nine total calls in Lancaster County. For the month of August, the number of times mutual aid was needed to cover came down from eighteen to thirteen. Staffing is getting better; four new hires today. We have partnered with HACC so we are starting a new apprentice class in October and we are hoping to get five to seven new hires from that class. It is a condensed schedule so once they get out, they will go through our education program.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Borough Sanctioned Events

Curt Herneisen presented a letter that was drafted with after action comments from a meeting with all municipalities involved in helping with the Make-A-Wish Convoy. We are trying to make the event safer and more efficient. On quick glance, Mayor Bradley sees some good comments, but very adamant that we should not solicit a donation for this event. Chief Goshen had some questions and said he would communicate directly with Phil Colvin and Brett Hamm and get back to Curt.

NEW BUSINESS

a. 2025 FDMJ Budget Request

Last year, Mayor Bradley requested that the FDMJ budget come through Public Safety first. A letter in the packet was provided by Robert Purcell, President, FDMJ. Brett Hamm explained that this is just the initial budget request. Some of the highlights include: still saving for a new roof for the building; insurance rate increase of about eight percent; possible stipend program; personal protective equipment; County control is mandating that all radios need replaced with Phase 2 capability by 2027. They are looking to replace eleven mobiles in 2025 and fifteen to twenty portables in 2026. Chief Goshen is submitting a grant for 100K to change out his department radios. After discussion of the information provided, Manager Pugliese needs clarification on how much money FDMJ is requesting from Mount Joy Borough for the general contribution.

b. 2025 MJBPD Budget Request

Chief Goshen reviewed his budget that was provided in the packet. Under Training 410.174 that covers sim rounds used in place of ammunition; CPR supplies; repair parts; range fees; continuing education for Sgt. Reed and Chief Goshen. Under Legal Fees 410.314 heading into contract negotiations, there is a number provided in case it is needed. Under Contracted Services 410.450 there was a slight increase for contracts such as IT services; Lexipol; PlanIT; Elizabethtown Booking Center; laboratory fees for DUI and drugs; CrimeWatch; CODY data bridge and storage; LexisNexis for investigations; Precision Instrument for calibration services; Crystal Springs; All Traffic

Solutions for speed signs and subscription; RMS/Computer Square. In capital budget, the funds being allocated for the radio issue discussed earlier increased to \$35K; body cam/in car video is contractual at \$17K; no vehicle purchase since we had to replace two vehicles this year but additional funds put into speed equipment – oldest radar sign is starting to have technical issues. The overall increase to the budget is 2.93% or \$58,000. The budget allocations each year is provided from 2019 to present.

c. MESA Response Letters

Manager Pugliese reviewed the letter from the Solicitor that was sent to MESA from Mount Joy Borough and MESA's response. He noted that Rapho and West Hempfield Townships sent the same letter. We will not take any action at this time.

d. ARLE Crosswalk Discussion for Future Projects

Mayor Bradley asked Chief Goshen to add this to the Agenda for a couple of reasons. After these crosswalks were installed, it was clear that there were visibility and obstruction concerns (trees, Veteran flags, existing signage, etc.), mainly on the Main Street corridor. Refer to the Crosswalk Visibility Review for the ARLE Pedestrian Crossing Grant that was included in the packet. Secondly, we had issue going back to Wood Street and specifically with Market Avenue and truck traffic at Wenger Feed so these are two projects within the last two years where there are potential safety/traffic issues relating to projects. Manager Pugliese stated that PennDOT told us where the signs had to be placed. Dennis Nissley is going to have the trees trimmed where he can if it is a safety issue. Chief Goshen explained that particularly in the area of Marietta Avenue, across from the Library, the way the trees are currently shaped, it makes a tunnel effect for pedestrians to walk through but the branches that are above your head are blocking the signs. Brett Hamm was addressing this with the property owners. Brett is also touching base with the VFW about the Hometown Heros flags. Chief Goshen explained that generally speaking, each of these intersections there are three points of notification – crosswalks on either side and there is a sign preceding that telling you there is a crosswalk coming up so the goal is to try to get visibility on two of the three points regardless of which direction you are approaching with the conditions we have. We are going to get some of the Hometown Hero signs adjusted on the pole so you can still see them but they won't be interfering with the signage. Manager Pugliese said that there is some extra money remaining in the Multimodal transportation grant and was hoping to replace/add some street markings; not a guarantee but he did ask. Moving forward, Mayor Bradley would like a formalized process created so that the Police Department does a plan review and provide feedback as part of the process for Public Works projects. Manager Pugliese will articulate this to Dennis Nissley at Public Works meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Councilor Eichler asked about the Veteran flag program. Some of the flags are tattered and could pose a safety risk. He was wondering what the contract/language is; how are they

replaced, etc. Mayor Bradley explained that the family member would pay for the flag; it would be hung for three years and then given back to the family. Many of them have gone well beyond that time. The VFW was not part of the process initially; it was a fund raiser for Main Street Mount Joy.

Brett Hamm said FDMJ will have a new traffic squad unit on the road mid-October. They are also replacing the F-350 with a 550.

Councilor Eichler inquired if Mount Joy Borough has anything in place if we would have an onslaught of immigrants as what occurred in Springfield, OH. Chief Goshen explained that the Borough Manager would have advanced knowledge if that would occur. The police department enforces the laws, i.e. squatters are arrested immediately. Mayor Bradley explained that we have zoning ordinances in place that limits the number of unrelated people at a given address and to prevent high concentrations of people in areas that cannot handle it.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL/LEGAL MATTERS

The Committee went into Executive Session to discuss personnel/legal matters at 20:11 Hrs. and ended at 20:17 Hrs. No decisions were made.

ADJOURNMENT

At 20:17 Hrs. Councilor Crider made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis