

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present were: Councilor Castaldi, Councilor Eichler, Mayor Bradley and Chief Goshen. Borough Manager Mark Pugliese was also present. Councilor Fahndrich was absent.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for February 28, 2022 as presented was made by Councilor Castaldi, seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously. Agenda has been adopted as presented.

PUBLIC INPUT

David Gray, 262 Park Avenue, Mount Joy, thanked Councilor Eichler for what he did for them. He also expressed his utmost thanks to Chief Goshen for taking his issue seriously. He supports the police 100%. He loves the area; best schools; son is doing really good here in Mount Joy.

Stacy Phillips, 262 Park Avenue, Mount Joy, loves her neighborhood; loves the police officers, but questioned how an incident was handled. She thanked the committee for their time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes for the January 24, 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting was made by Councilor Castaldi, seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes have been approved as presented.

FDMJ REPORT

FDMJ Chief Gohn was in attendance and reviewed his monthly report. There was a total of fifty-one calls in the month of January and forty-five service hours. Thirty-six members were trained. The average response time in January was 4:44 and the average time on scene was 10:01. In the month, they responded to calls every 14 hours and 35 minutes which equates to almost two calls per day. They had two public service details

in the month of January – removed the decorations from the Christmas tree and assisted the American Legion with their charity ride on New Year’s Day. Councilor Eichler extended his gratitude to the entire department for their service to the Borough. Chief Gohn wanted to thank Councilor Fahndrich for attending the Fire Department Mount Joy Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

EMA REPORT

Matt Kratz was not in attendance; no report received. Mayor Bradley reflected on how long it has been since the last EMA report was received. It is the responsibility of council to ensure that the EMA organization is functioning, which is very difficult without seeing a report. He would like either the Borough Manager or the Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee to speak to the EMS Coordinator directly. Borough Manager Pugliese will attempt to reach out to Matt. He had reached out to him via email about four months ago when this discussion first came up, but did not receive a call from him. Councilor Eichler offered his assistance in reaching out if needed and will contact Councilor Fahndrich to see if she heard back from Matt. Councilor Castaldi agreed that the response should come from the Borough Manager. Mayor Bradley indicated that the EMA report (doesn’t have to be monthly; can be quarterly) should include...work done within the quarter; training; size of the staff; location of training...those are some of the types of information we should receive.

PSH LIFE LION REPORT

Adam Marden was in attendance and his report was included in the packet. There was a total of fifty calls in January; thirty-four Class 1, five Class 2 and eleven Class 3 calls. The busiest day of the week was Friday and the busiest hour of the day was 10:00am, followed by 1600 Hrs. Their response time was 7:54. They were covered eighteen times in the Mount Joy Borough (list provided). In the spirit of transparency, an email was sent on the ninth that all three units were out of service for about 1.5 to 2 hours due to a fatality accident. Adam came in at 2300 Hrs and had the Chaplain come in to meet with the staff. They are in week four of their training and they still have nine candidates for their division. Applications continue to come in so he has been doing interviews. He thanked the fire department for the use of their facility for training while their facility was under construction. Central deployment goes away on March 1, 2022 so the crews will be going right to the station so there won’t be any downtime.

Mayor Bradley applauded Adam for taking care of the staff. Regarding the central dispatch issue, Mayor Bradley applauded Adam and the organization for continuing to progress the organization forward and the transparency in addressing this issue as it was not handled by previous management, despite multiple requests. There has been a marked improvement in the EMS provision of services since being taken over by PSU Life Lion and thanked Adam for that. Councilor Eichler concurred with what Mayor Bradley expressed and appreciates Adams’s efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS Service Contracts

No movement on the subject, although Borough Manager Pugliese has had some communications with Scott Buchle.

Parking

The Residential Parking draft which was included in the packet was discussed. The only question was whether or not a hearing was an option. Mayor Bradley did not feel a hearing was necessary and would like to put this on a deadline for the next meeting. Chief Goshen stated that he recalled from previous meetings that the committee agreed that we were not doing a hearing and felt we should strike the hearing question mark and forward the parking draft to the Solicitor for her comment. Councilor Castaldi made a motion to edit out the hearing and ask Manager Pugliese to send to the Solicitor; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

Feral Cats

Mayor Bradley was contacted about another large gathering of feral cats on New Haven Street and the alley behind it on the firehouse side. We now have complaints in all three wards of the Borough; in some wards, multiple locations. He feels it is becoming a quality-of-life, quality of health, bird issue. We have looked at a couple of ordinances, we have a dog ordinance; should we have a cat ordinance; do we promote a catch/spay/neuter/release event. There are three categories for animals; domesticated farm animals, domesticated exotic animals, domestic animals – need some consistency within those categories. Borough Manager Pugliese stated there was a Facebook post about someone paying for 80 to be cats spayed/neutered and is now looking for help to build homes for the cats. Councilor Castaldi is going to reach out to local veterinarians in the area for their thoughts on this issue; agrees with Mayor Bradley that we need to do something. He feels we should have an animal ordinance that includes cats. Councilor Eichler agrees with Mayor Bradley and feels we need an animal-specific ordinance. Councilor Eichler has two rescue cats that remain indoors, but he knows others who let their domestic cats out at night so we need to have appropriate language if they get caught up in the catch/spay/neuter release program, if it comes to that. He will reach out to Councilor Fahndrich for Manheim Township's animal ordinance and, as a committee, see how it applies to the Borough. Borough Manager Pugliese mentioned that Mountville engaged the Pet Pantry to do a catch/spay/neuter/release event. Mountville had just one problematic area. The procedures were done at the Borough and the cats were kept for 24-48 hours afterward. They do not have a cat ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. A recommendation to Council President to assign a councilor to the Fire Department Mount Joy Strategic Planning Committee.
Councilor Fahndrich attended the first meeting and is willing to continue to go to these meetings. Councilor Castaldi made a motion asking President Hall to appoint Councilor Lu Ann Fahndrich to the Fire Department Mount Joy Strategic Planning Committee; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. A recommendation to Council President to assign a councilor from the Public Safety Committee to attend the Northwest Emergency Medical Services Municipals Officials Meeting
Mayor Bradley expressed interest in attending these meetings and questioned whether or not it had to be a councilor to attend these meetings. Councilor Castaldi offered to serve as an alternate. Councilor Castaldi made a motion asking President Hall to appoint Mount Joy Borough Mayor Timothy Bradley and an alternate to attend Northwest Emergency Medical Services Strategic Planning meeting; seconded by Councilor Eicher. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street, Mount Joy, feels that feral cats will not go away with a spay/neuter program. Some people are harboring these animals. As for the street graduation banner, he did not see it on the Agenda but said it was a two sided banner and does not recommend that it is placed against a building as it may scratch the lettering. He thanked Mayor Bradley and the Public Safety Committee for bringing up the EMA situation. He hasn't seen any communication from that particular organization and some of the new committee members haven't even met the EMA Coordinator. They have not had training in over one year. He also inquired about the laws for residents who have home security cameras facing sidewalks and streets. Chief Goshen explained that a home security camera is allowed to face public areas but cannot put a camera facing/overlooking a privacy fence. Basically, surveying any public property is permissible, no limitations to that. Councilor Castaldi said there has been numerous newspaper articles on the organization, Lancaster Safety Coalition, that runs the cameras in downtown Lancaster that might be of interest to him. Borough Manager Pugliese mentioned, while he is not suggesting it, that there are some areas that have a volunteer registry of your cameras if you have a ring or something like that, so if the police have an incident in that area, they can talk to the people to check their recordings to see if there is anything.

Bruce Haigh, Delta Street, West Ward presented the committee members with a diagram of Pinkerton Road and expressed his concerns about the upcoming roadwork. He feels the problem is the intersection. Bids open on March 7 but feels that a traffic study needs to be conducted, given the concerns that have been expressed by a

resident on February 7. Mr. Haigh feels that this issue is going to come up on March 7. Mayor Bradley feels we should disallow truck traffic but that will cause the trucks to utilize other roads. After discussion, Chief Goshen said the committee would need to direct him to do a traffic study so you can look at potentially other options, but it will take approximately one month. Borough Manager stated that it needs to be put on next month's Agenda. He also stated that Public Works is going to be changing verbiage on some signs.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Borough Manager Pugliese stated he was working with Penn State Health to set up a vaccine clinic in the Borough, possibly in the ambulance building.

Borough Manager Pugliese stated that he will be attending a hearing tomorrow at the State Capitol reference to the State of Affairs for Emergency Medical Services; long list of people that will be testifying, but no one from BSA or any Borough employees are listed. There will be breakfast with Senator Aument as well so he can discuss things with him at that time.

Councilor Eichler inquired with Chief Goshen on where in the Borough does he see a problem with drivers decelerating. Chief Goshen said primarily on Main Street but throughout the Borough. Councilor Eichler has seen the electronic signs in Manheim Borough (High Street) and suggested we think about it. Chief Goshen said there are benefits to visual deterrents but feels speed enforcement is crucial and our Main Street is very wide which encourages speeding. He likes the electronic signs but feels the long-term solution is environmental controls, such as bulb outs, are better.

Mayor Bradley mentioned conversations around speed tables/pillows on Barbara Street, near Joyland. Borough Manager Pugliese said that there is a grant for a speed hump on Barbara Street and a speed pillow on Market Street.

Councilor Eichler thanked Chief Goshen and the department for their assistance last Wednesday when Little Chiques park was stocked for trout season.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS

An Executive Session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

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