

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for April 25, 2022 as presented was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion carried unanimously. Agenda as presented has been adopted.

PUBLIC INPUT

Bruce Haigh, West Ward, questioned the status of the traffic study at Pinkerton Road and Marietta Avenue. Chief Goshen said it should be ready for Council but would prefer it to pass through the Public Safety Committee first. Bruce Haigh was particularly concerned about 257 Marietta Avenue and we may need to re-examine the curbs, as the cars do not fit into the garages. The parking issue is on Pinkerton Road.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes for the March 28, 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting was made by Councilor Castaldi, seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes as presented has been approved.

FDMJ REPORT

FDMJ Chief Gohn was in attendance and reviewed his monthly report. There was a total of forty-five calls for the month of March with a total for 142 at the end of the quarter. The time in service was twenty-one hours and fourteen minutes. The average response time in March was 5:04 and the average time on scene was 10:45. They averaged nine members per call. Forty-six members were trained for a total of 379 hours and zero minutes. The fire department participated in one community service event; one stand-by; one duty crew; two smoke detector installs and one in station work detail in March. They interviewed thirteen applicants for membership; six are active firefighters.

EMA REPORT

Until an Interim EMA Coordinator is appointed, Mayor Bradley reported that in looking over both the NARM and EOP there are several deputies. Council will need to make a decision as to who might best serve in the role of interim EMA Coordinator. Mayor Bradley stated that the EOP was last completed in 2019 and that generally gets updated every two years. The NARM has not been updated since the EOP and should be updated annually. One of the steps that was taken initially was to send out the NARM to both the Police Chief and the Borough Manager to update contact numbers. Council will need to contact the deputies to see if anyone is interested in the position.

PSH LIFE LION REPORT

Adam Marden was in attendance and his report was included in the packet. There was a total of fifty-seven calls in March; twenty-nine Class 1, six Class 2 and twenty-two Class 3 calls. The busiest days of the week were Thursday and Saturday, eleven calls each day. The busiest unit was day shift. They were covered eleven times in Mount Joy Borough. Their response time was 8:18 for Class 1 calls. Borough Manager Pugliese mentioned that he thought their membership drive might not get the anticipated success due to lack of publicity. Adam inquired about having the drive placed on the Borough's Facebook page.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS Service Contracts

Borough Manager Pugliese distributed the contract. Changes were made to Paragraph 4.3 but he needs to work with MSMJ, Voyage, Chamber, Fire Department, etc., with list of dates of needed coverage. Mayor Bradley raised the question that if someone requests/pays for ambulance coverage for an event in the Borough, how would the resources be deployed and how would calls be handled in the Borough. Adam Marden explained that since Penn State took over, they do not do stand-bys outside their area. Committed ambulances do not take resources out of their 911 for other calls. For the municipalities and fire departments, there is no cost. If there is a 5K run and we can support it by EMS services, there will be a committed ambulance and they will be charged. The concern is staffing. If they are unable to commit an ambulance, PSH can offer non-committed ambulances. Paragraph 6 now includes deed restriction. Borough Manager Pugliese will forward to the Solicitor one more time for review. Councilor Eichler made a motion to move to full Council the Ground Ambulance Provider Service Agreement; seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion passed unanimously.

Parking

Borough Manager Pugliese distributed a letter from the Solicitor regarding the information we provided her and she advised us that not too long-ago Council had adopted a parking regulation that went into steps on how to do much of the stuff we had submitted. She thought that perhaps we could change something in that as opposed to adopting a new ordinance. Committee is to review and return with comments at next month's meeting.

Feral Cats

Mayor Bradley, Councilors Fahndrich and Castaldi met with Dr. Dill of Donegal Animal Hospital who confirmed that free roaming feral cats in a municipality like Mount Joy Borough are a public health issue. Dr. Dill was very supportive and willing to attend a Council meeting if we desire him to do so. He recommends a TNVR, which includes rabies vaccination. Mayor Bradley sent to the Committee three science-based articles and one from the Washington Post regarding the effectiveness of these TNR programs which referenced that this needs to be an ongoing program, not a one-time attempt, and research states you must do 70%-80% for the program to be effective. Councilor Fahndrich was at another township meeting that a feral cat problem was discussed during public comment and the supervisor gave her a couple of names of people to reach out so she will follow up with them. Borough Manager Pugliese will reach out to Mountville for contact information. The Committee to review Manheim Township's ordinance and come to the next meeting with some ideas.

NEW BUSINESS

Northwest Municipal Authority Proposal/Presentation

Marc Hershey, Elizabethtown Borough Council President, Rob Brady of Brady Consulting and Dale Ressler, President of NWEMS were in attendance; handouts were distributed. Marc Hershey spoke on behalf of the NWEMS who has been meeting quarterly along with a group of elected officials since 2018 about the status of EMS. They are looking to form a sub-committee, EMS Authority, who would be joined by municipalities that utilize NWEMS to explore alternatives to fix EMS. 87% of 911 calls in NW area come from a residential parcel. Through the support of local elected state officials, they were successful in obtaining a DCED grant of \$25,000 to help with professional services. A public hearing would have to transpire before the Authority is formed. For every municipality that joins in the beginning, they would have one elected official serving on the Authority Board. The Authority Board would have input in the formation and the fee structure. After a public hearing, the Board would establish a fee schedule per household, paid annually by either the residents or the municipality. When a municipality joins, all residents would essentially become members. Based upon the 911 calls, they are estimating \$75-\$95 per residential structure. The members/residents would not get a residual bill that isn't covered by insurance. If they do not have insurance, they would only be responsible for 50% of the bill. They hope to work on Articles of Incorporation in June 2022; end of July would probably be the last call for municipalities to join. Mayor Bradley would like this put on the Agenda as a discussion item for the group to present at the next Council meeting.

Receipt of EMA Coordinator Resignation Letter

Councilor Fahndrich received a letter of resignation from the EMA Coordinator, Matt Kratz; included in your packet. Councilor Eichler inquired if the EMA Coordinator has sent anything for the convoy; Chief Goshen hasn't received anything yet. Mayor Bradley stated that all the documents should be accessible to the Borough Manager so we need to ensure that has been communicated to him. Councilor Castaldi made a motion to accept the resignation of the EMA Coordinator, Matt Kratz, and to move it to full Council; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street, liked the discussion on feral cats, anxious to see it flushed out, but as a resident feels it would be hard pressed to spend tax payer dollars on TNR. He also stated that typically we have the EOC open on parade day.

Bruce Haigh, 504 Rose Petal Lane, felt there were three different categories of cats; homeowner who has domesticated homebased mammals – no regulations should be required; domesticated free roaming mammals, and free roaming feral mammals that are fed by the public – perhaps consider requiring tagging/tipping/sending to a no kill shelter.

Councilor Castaldi said that Dr. Dill explained that cats are more territorial then migratory so then tend to stick within a particular area.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Councilor Eichler will not be attendance at May or June’s Public Safety Committee meetings; no conflict with Council meetings.

Councilor Fahndrich inquired with Chief Goshen regarding the site triangle at the library. Chief Goshen explained that there was insufficient crash data to suggest for the Borough to intervene and have the signs moved. When they redid the intersection, they painted a stop line so with the line and the stop sign, the rules of the road apply.

Councilor Castaldi inquired about the building project and the ad hoc building committee, since he missed the last meeting, and if there is any consensus on pressing needs and the Mayor said in his mind, the Police Department is in greater need.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS

An Executive Session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

At 20:50 Hrs. Councilor Eichler made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis