

## **Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

**December 19, 2022**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Councilor Fahndrich at 18:31 Hrs.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for December 19, 2022 as presented was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion to approve the Agenda as presented carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

David Weiser of 616 Water Street, Mount Joy explained that he supports the police but has concerns regarding the effectiveness and proficiency of the police department. He is not seeing the police running traffic, cruising around town like they used to do, jaywalkers are not being cited, etc. He also relayed the Borough's Class 1, Part 1 crimes clearance rate.

Chief Goshen will check into Class 1, Part 1 crimes clearance rate, however it is a very narrow way of measuring a department's efficiency; way too many factors that go into Part 1 crimes which are only the top ones. With the traffic issues, he follows the DDACTS plan which is endorsed by the International Association Chiefs of Police, National Association of PA as well as our County Chiefs of Police. DDACTS is data driven activity, which he follows it to a 'T' which is why he utilizes the speed signs to gather data. As far as pedestrian travel, he is not going to use his limited resources to cite people who are not utilizing the crosswalks unless he has substantial crash data to suggest that it needs to be done. There has to be a reason behind the issuance of a citation; not just merely issuing citations just to issue them. A lot of what we do revolves around crash data; a lot of what we do revolves around traffic studies we do. What hampers our ability is the equipment he has to do the traffic studies is temperature sensitive. We are having a very hard time getting the data off the current traffic study we are doing on Terrace Avenue. We need that information to manage our resources effectively.

Councilor Castaldi wanted it on the record that he thinks Mr. Weiser was referring to his comment at the last Council meeting about jaywalking but it was a U.S. Postal Service issue; not looking for enforcement in that area. There was no expectation on his part to ticket jaywalkers, but he thanked Mr. Weiser for bringing it up.

While he believes Mr. Weiser's numbers are totally accurate, Manager Pugliese wanted to explain that in his past life he had a lot of dealings with UCR reports/numbers. In the beginning, UCR explains that you need to be very careful in how you use these numbers as they are very much open to interpretation from the person who is filing the numbers with the FBI. He knew of one department where they marked all false bank alarms as robberies when most departments would mark it as an alarm. He noted that you will probably see when a Chief changes in a department, there will be a difference in how they report numbers. He is not here to dispute anything Mr. Weiser has to say just wanted to bring it into clarity when looking at UCR numbers.

Mayor Bradley explained that over the past eight/nine years, there have been complaints about speeding and parking in the downtown. He is always looking for ways to improve and relies on Chief Goshen's data for those trend lines. They have discussed utilizing staffing to the best of their ability; given some days there is only one or two officers on duty at a time. He knows there has been a number of speed details and significant conversation is ongoing. There has been some targeted enforcement in certain areas, as well as routine enforcement in some of the problematic areas (Marietta Avenue and certain areas on Main Street). They have also looked at alternative means to mitigate some of those specific areas, i.e., speeding on Barbara Street was discussed along with putting in speed tables. He also receives complaints about the police department making money issuing speeding tickets. While he is a proponent of radar, it is not permitted. He shares Mr. Weiser's frustrations. He and Chief Goshen will address speed enforcement in 2023.

Josh Deering, 22 Frank Street, Mount Joy inquired as to whether or not constables can enforce speeding. The response was no.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Minutes from the November 28, 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting was made by Councilor Castaldi, seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes from the November 28, 2022 meeting have been approved.

### **FDMJ REPORT**

FDMJ Chief Brett Hamm was in attendance and reviewed his report which was included in the packet. There was a total of fifty-three calls for the month of November with a total of 500 at the end of 11/30/22. Calls were every 16 hours and 20 minutes. The time in service for the month was 38 hours and 13 minutes. The average response time in November was 4:08 and the average arrival time was 9:14 with Fire Police calls. They averaged ten and a half members per call for the month. Total man hours were 359 hours and 37 minutes. They did not have any fire prevention details but had four community service events. Twenty-nine members were trained for a total of 155 hours. There were thirty-four first due calls; twenty-one in the Borough, ten in Rapho Township, three in Mount Joy Township and one in East Donegal Township. Two notable first due calls: 11/17 vehicle fire and a building fire on 11/21. Councilor Castaldi thanked Chief Hamm for his reports.

## **EMA REPORT**

ISP for Winterfest was created. Mayor Bradley reached out to Manager Pugliese and Chief Goshen to confirm the previous information provided for the EOP. He should have the EOP and NARM finalized by the end of February.

## **PSH LIFE LION REPORT**

Adam Marden was not in attendance but the November report was included in the packet. Any questions can be emailed to him.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Traffic Study Angle Street and Terrace Avenue

Chief Goshen stated the traffic study is still in process; the temperature is shortening the lifespan of the batteries. The Sergeant wants to run it at a minimum of another two weeks to see if he can pull some additional numbers off of it. Councilor Eichler questioned the use of solar powered speed signs that are used by Manheim. Chief Goshen explained that item is in his capital budget for next year.

### Public Safety Administration Responsibilities Discussion

Councilor Fahndrich hasn't been able to get hold of her contact at the State level as he has been off. Chief Ober was invited to the January meeting per Manager Pugliese but hasn't confirmed anything yet. Councilor Fahndrich briefed Chief Hamm on last month's conversation. She will forward the job description to him. Chief Hamm says that position is becoming more prevalent. East Hempfield Township hired one last year in that type of capacity. He is the focal point for multiple departments. Manheim Township went down that road years ago. Mayor Bradley said the administrative roles have become more time consuming; perhaps work with other municipalities; a part time position or perhaps a role currently exists within the Borough that could offset some of the responsibilities from the volunteers to reduce burnout. Chief Hamm sees some benefit to the department.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

David Weiser of 616 Water Street, Mount Joy continued his discussion from the first public input period. He acknowledged Manager Pugliese's comments about UCR but that this the only thing that exists to measure a department's efficiency. He reviewed Chief Goshen's stats. He feels more can be done. He feels speed signs are not effective; omnipresence slows people down. He feels stops can be increased. Councilor Eichler hears station 33 called a lot more, i.e., EMS, domestic situations, etc. Mayor Bradley feels information is useful and will meet with Chief. He encouraged Mr. Weiser to email any other information or questions to him with a 'cc' to Chief Goshen. Going into the New Year, Mayor Bradley always meets with Chief Goshen so they will review the information at that time.

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

Councilor Eichler wanted to thank Manager Pugliese and Public Works for removing the graffiti from the stainless-steel light control box at Market and Main Streets (by the Post Office).

Councilor Eichler inquired if we have any digital sign ordinance in the Borough. Admin and Finance is discussing it; may require changes to the sign ordinance.

Councilor Castaldi inquired as to whether or not we need to revise our ordinance since the State had changed the fireworks laws.

Councilor Castaldi appreciated the discussion on traffic stops and recognizes the difficulty with the interaction between law enforcement and the citizens. He does not want to see quotas with traffic stops.

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

An Executive Session was not held.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 19:20 Hrs. Councilor Eichler made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis