

## **Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

**December 18, 2023**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Councilor Fahndrich at 18:33 Hrs.

### **ROLL CALL**

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

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for December 18, 2023 as presented was made by Councilor Castaldi, seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion to adopt the Agenda as presented carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Dale Murray, 120 Farmington Way, spoke on the new proposed development in Rapho Township, Chiques Crossing. He questioned whether or not Mount Joy Borough requested a traffic impact study. This development is going to bring much more traffic into the borough, extreme density, issues for flooding, and much more. Mr. Murray has gone to Public Works, here tonight at Public Safety and will be going to Admin and Finance. He would like this matter to be put on Council's Agenda for discussion so Council can put a cohesive position together and go on record against what is happening. There is a whole litany of zoning issues. He stated Mayor Bradley did a wonderful job at Rapho's hearing and covered a lot of good points. Councilor Eichler thanked Mr. Murray for his input and agreed that, as a Committee, to forward this to Council as a discussion item. Chief Goshen questioned the lack of a traffic study. He will reach out to District 8 at PennDOT to find out if a traffic impact study was requested/completed or not, as this is a state road and one must be done. Mayor Bradley explained that this is an adjacent township and we have limited influence as it pertains to the township but pointed out that at the meeting he attended, Supervisor Swarr stated that the impact of this project was going to be greater to Mount Joy Borough than to Rapho Township. From a safety perspective, we should have a continued discussion and be clear on what our concerns are.

Dave Christian, 227 Park Avenue, agrees with Dale Murray 100%. He, and Dale, are part of a citizen's committee and they have multiple concerns about this project but cannot bring them to the table until they can see the exact plan; so far, they have only presented a sketch plan. The plan that the Borough has does not show exactly how the development links to the Borough so he superimposed the sketch plan over an aerial view of the Borough and provided the plan to each of the Public Safety Committee members. The citizen's committee would like the Borough to take an interest in the traffic impact study so he appreciates Chief Goshen looking into it. Mr. Christian is concerned about the intersection of 772 and Barbara Street; tough as it is, without

the 1200 additional cars turning left into Mount Joy Borough during the morning and evening commutes. They are proposing six buildings. Rapho Township ordinance only allows for building heights of 45 feet tall; these appear to be upwards of 54 feet tall based on the elevation. There is a concern about a secondary access road; right turn in/right turn out access onto 772 on the Mount Joy side of the traffic circle. Rapho's ordinance only allows a six-foot-high wall but they have approved an undefined maximum wall height but they are proposing a fourteen/fifteen-foot wall height by looking at the sketch plans. It looks like the wall is going to be placed exactly on the 100-year flood plan. The concern is what happens if we do have two back-to-back 100-year storms, that high wall will prevent that flood plain from encroaching into Rapho Township portion but will push it into Mount Joy Borough. This was approved without public comment. We did not have an opportunity to speak. Rapho's ordinance previously called for 2.5 parking spaces but changed the ordinance to 2.2 spaces. This is going to be a two-year process so we have a lot of opportunity to try to effect some change. The citizen's group needs the Borough's help.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Minutes from the November 27, 2023 Public Safety Committee Meeting as presented was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes from the November 27, 2023 meeting have been approved.

### **FDMJ REPORT**

FDMJ Chief Brett Hamm was in attendance and reviewed the monthly Incident Report Summary for November which was included in the packet. There was a total of fifty-five calls for the month of November 2023; five hundred forty-two calls so far in 2023. This was the busiest month of the year. Calls were every 14 hours and 46 minutes. The time in service for the month was 29 hours and 56 minutes. The average response time in November was 5:29 and the average arrival time was 9:42 with Fire Police calls. They averaged ten members per call for the month; day shift averaged six members per call. Total man hours were 251 hours and 18 minutes. Thirty-five members were trained for a total of 140 hours. There were thirty-seven first due alarms with eighteen mutual aids; fifteen in the Borough, eighteen in Rapho Township, one in Mount Joy Township and three in East Donegal Township. There was one notable fire in in Mount Joy Borough which resulted in a \$30,000.00 loss for the incident. FDMJ had two fire prevention details. FDMJ also participated in three community service details. Bids arrived for engine one's replacement and will be reviewed today. Chief Hamm commented that he is very concerned about traffic issues with Rapho's new development; there was a fatality just down the road from there a few months ago. Mayor Bradley would like Chief Hamm to go back ten years, if possible, to present a trend looking at the average response time to calls, number of volunteers responding and overall call volume.

### **EMA REPORT**

- a. Regional Urban Search and Rescue Volunteer Participation Form.  
Phil Colvin commented that there were no new events. He discussed the Hazardous Mitigation Plan last month and will start to collect data from the departments. He met with the Borough Manager to discuss it and has plenty of time to get what he needs. We had some flooding today but was manageable. The Regional Urban Search and

Rescue Volunteer Participation Form was given to Manager Pugliese. Phil is a member of the Regional Urban Search and Rescue and since he is a volunteer, needs to have the Worker's Compensation that is through the FDMJ extended to this but he needs the Manager's signature on the form; Chief Hamm has already signed it. His role within the organization is tech search and he takes his dog along. He lets Chief Hamm or someone else know when he does go out and it is tracked as an incident with the fire department so it is documented. Mayor Bradley questioned that Phil would be participating as a member of FDMJ task force and not as EMA Director for Mount Joy Borough which is correct. FDMJ would become a participating agency; very comparable when our fire police go to another jurisdiction; mutual aid on a broader scale. Councilor Castaldi made a motion to move to full Council the Regional Urban Search and Rescue Volunteer Participation Form to be signed by the Manager for consideration; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Bradley questioned moving into 2024, what the plan looks like to get some of the volunteers back and involved in the process. Phil is working on a couple things. There are coordinators in Rapho and East Hempfield Townships that he has worked with over the years and will be bringing to this committee and Council, more or less, a Memorandum of Understanding that if they need help, he will go to them and vice versa.

### **PSH LIFE LION REPORT**

Chief Goshen stated there has been a change in management and Nate Buchanan is the new Manager. He was not in attendance and there was no monthly report submitted for November.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### a. Electric Scooters/Bicycles on Sidewalks

Chief Goshen reviewed the handouts in the packet. The first one is what Councilor Eichler referenced at the last meeting which is a policy from DCNR that governs electric bikes on their pathways. The second one is Senate Bill 692 that is being contemplated right now. This is the first introduction of this bill; could be modified down further below class 3 cities into townships and boroughs or if it will stall out at the city level. Pennsylvania is one of the last states to address electric bikes. The third handout is from People for Bikes and the last one is an Ordinance from the City of New Brunswick (NJ) that appears to address many of Mayor Bradley's concerns. The committee members liked this one and said the defined area would need to be all of Main Street. Mayor Bradley feels we should reach out to Senator Aument's office to get clarification on the Senate Bill; Councilor Fahndrich will reach out to him.

#### b. Parking Study – Wood Street and Market Avenue

Discussion on the parking study provided by Chief Goshen. The driving force on this study was the resurfacing and rebuilding of Wood Street and the sidewalks/curbs. Mayor Bradley had identified that the curb was damaged shortly after being installed. Chief Goshen has spent some time watching the trucks and the difficulty with turning

in/out. Chief Goshen reiterated that moving forward, prior to completion of projects, we should check to see if there are indicators (curb/sign damage, etc.) that would warrant a traffic study to be completed prior to any work being done. Councilor Eichler made a motion to move to full Council on January 2, 2024, the on-street parking study recommendations to be implemented at the intersection of Wood Street and South Market Avenue, seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Ethel Esianor-Mitchual, 117 Lakeside Crossing, discussed an incident that occurred in her mailbox where someone placed feces in it. She has alerted the Post Office who offered a telephone number to file a complaint, she called the police department and Officer Shelly is actively investigating the incident. She just wanted to bring it to the attention of the committee. Chief Goshen explained that we have had some problems in that area. He offered the color/type of vehicle they are looking for and to call the police department immediately if seen in her area. He encouraged her to register her cameras on Mount Joy Borough's CrimeWatch Camera Registry page.

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

Chief Goshen said the new hire passed his polygraph and will move to the next step which is the psychological portion.

Councilor Eichler recognized and thanked Councilor Castaldi for his service and dedication to public service. The entire Committee thanked him as well.

Councilor Castaldi said it was an honor to be on Mount Joy Borough Council and the Public Safety Committee, having the pleasure of sitting between Councilors Fahndrich and Eichler. He enjoyed working with Mayor Bradley, Chief Goshen and Manager Pugliese. He mentioned his interest in the new Community and Economic Development position. He wished good luck to all the returning and new Council members and said he was happy to give advice to them as well.

Councilor Eichler inquired about the line painting on Lefever Road. Chief Goshen said that Dennis Nissley will take care of the line painting in the springtime.

Councilor Eichler questioned the area on South Barbara Street where Whitmoyer has 200+ vehicles parked and was wondering where the public area stops and private property starts. Chief Goshen explained the dividing line; where the sidewalk ends on South Barbara Street, that is where the public area stops.

Councilor Eichler asked about who is responsible for the clean-up that is necessary on Longenecker Road from an accident last week. It was relayed to him that the tow truck driver cleans up following an accident. Chief Goshen will look to see what tow truck was used at that time.

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

An Executive Session was not held.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 20:55 Hrs. Councilor Castaldi made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis