

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

August 23, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for August 23, 2021 as presented was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Agenda carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

Eric Roering, 319 Berry Street, Mount Joy, was in attendance on behalf of Voyage Mount Joy regarding Agenda Item 10, Section C – Market at Mount Joy events, in case anyone has any questions.

Councilor Eichler, 159 Longenecker Road, Mount Joy, offered a moment of silence for the situation in Afghanistan.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was a correction under Old Business, Free Roaming and Feral Cats. Councilor Fahndrich reached out to PSAB not PSPA. A motion to approve the Minutes as corrected for the Public Safety Committee meeting held on July 26, 2021 was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion to approve the Minutes as corrected carried unanimously.

FDMJ REPORT

FDMJ Chief Gohn was not in attendance, however he emails his report and attends Council meetings.

EMA REPORT

Matt Kratz was not in attendance; no report received.

SVEMS REPORT

SVEMS last report for July, included in your packet, was presented by Adam Marden. There were forty-nine calls in the borough. Monday and Thursday 1300 Hrs. appeared to be the busiest times. Their response time in July was 8 minutes, 38 seconds for class one calls. Transition is coming along. Next week they will be stopping their routine transports as discussed, with Hospice transports ending in October. They are hoping to start the recruit Academy at the end of September, early October. The Academy runs for approximately ten weeks and will be trained and out on the street so they will have their training shifts, emergency vehicle operation training, car rescue training, so they will be certified, have all their training shifts and will be ready to go. Recruiting is still a concern. Councilor Fahndrich inquired on how many applications they typically receive. Adam explained that in the January class, they received 78 applications and after weeding through them that number narrowed down to 14-16 with 7-10 graduates. Currently they are fully staffed at Mount Joy, Columbia, East Hempfield and York.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS Service Contracts

Borough Manager Pugliese addressed that this is on the Agenda for full council meeting on September 13, 2021 as he has a list of items that had been collected from all of the council members for discussion. In the meantime, he has an informal meeting with Scott Buchle, Penn State Health Life Lion this week and might touch base with some of the things. We will start looking at the agreement after the September council meeting.

Free Roaming and Feral Cats

Councilor Fahndrich still has not gotten any response from Department of Ag and she still needs to reach out to the FB group. She has had some discussions with others regarding education. Councilor Eichler would like us to work with veterinarians in the area and come up with some agreement. Mayor Bradley is anxious to hear what the FB group has to offer from a program perspective. He wants a comprehensive approach to humanely deal with the situation. Councilor Fahndrich would like the information she received from PSAB to be our last resort.

Residential Parking Permit Ordinance

Councilor Fahndrich worked on this and will send it out before the next council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Speed Tables

At the last meeting Josh Deering had some questions about speed tables. Chief Goshen is waiting on Dennis Nissley to provide prices to install one strictly out of asphalt and other prefabricated types, some are made out of rubber and some out of plastic. Also, he is still waiting on the street names from Councilor Deering. The big thing is we have to look at cost. Once we have a price tag, then we need to determine priority streets, how many we are going to do and flesh it out that way.

Councilor Eichler inquired if we do the ones made out of asphalt if those streets come up in the paving schedule, can it be addressed at that time. Mayor Bradley stated that speed tables have come up a number of times and the concern always involved snow plowing, but that doesn't seem to be a concern anymore. He feels it involves two committees...safety (where should they go) and public works (installation). On the front end, the questions remain...is there a problem...is this particular mechanism effective...are there other mechanisms in lieu of this one that we could put into place and then look at cost effectiveness. We really need to determine the mechanism. Without any reservation, if we are going to put them in, we need to put one on North Barbara Street in the vicinity of Kid's Joyland where people speed down that hill toward 772 with the blind turn and a children's park. He understands they have to be in rapid succession, but doesn't know how many we need in a length of street. He feels speed signs have a temporary effect. Borough Manager Pugliese spoke to LTAP regarding this situation and were very good in providing information. They indicated that speed tables do work in slowing down traffic if you put more than one on a street, but also indicated that once you do put them down to prepare for lots of complaints because people have to slow down. They suggested we do a survey of the residents on those streets before we put them in because they are the people that will travel the most on those streets so is their perception that there is speeding on those streets and are they willing to accept speed tables on their street. Mayor Bradley liked the idea of surveying the residents.

Councilor Fahndrich inquired about how we would accomplish it at a local level. Mayor Bradley said we could have a community meeting, inviting people within two blocks; send out survey using Google forms specifically to those addresses. Councilor Fahndrich liked the idea of working with the residents. She asked Chief Goshen to see if he could come to the next meeting with recommendations, after he gets pricing from Dennis Nissley. Josh Deering relayed the streets in question as Birchland, Orchard, North Market, North Barbara, Columbia Avenue from South Barbara to South Market, Pinkerton from Marietta heading south, Wood Street from Musser to Chocolate, North Plum and West Donegal. Mayor Bradley suggested that we come up with some type of

process of evaluating as to whether or not additional ones need to go on the list. For example, vicinity of a park, crosswalk, etc., then Council can address each one. Councilor Fahndrich liked the suggestion of North Barbara with the park and starting with one and work out the bugs before doing more streets.

Mayor Bradley inquired about what the speed limit is to go over a speed table. Borough Manager Pugliese said there are two different tables once for under 35 mph and one for over 35 mph so you use the specific table for that street. Speed tables can slow down emergency response for ladder trucks so there are speed pillows that can be used and are based on the axle of the ladder trucks.

Councilor Eichler asked if there was an established speed limit for the Borough and Chief Goshen stated that class 3 cities surface streets, by law, are 25 mph and all interstates that go around class 3 cities are automatically 55 mph. There isn't anything specific within the Borough; we have 25, 35 and a section that goes up to 40 mph on East Main Street.

Mayor Bradley suggested that one of the considerations for the speed table for an early installation/trial run is behind the borough hall with having the daycare and train ridership parking.

Traffic Concerns on Lefever Road

An email was received from a resident, Mr. Jaimes Spring II, concerning the speeding on Lefever Road. Chief spoke to the Officers to keep an eye out. He is going to move the speed sign from Marietta to Lefever and start the speed study to see what we are actually experiencing. If there is legitimacy to the complaint, we will start traffic enforcement out there. Mayor Bradley brought up the school zone designation; is there any negative to the flashing lights, reduced speed during school hours, etc. Chief Goshen has noticed that some of the signage that should be in place in the Borough, is not. With the school designation zone, it is troubling because his experience is that people do not adhere to the zone. The way Janus sits, it may be Rapho Township so unsure if that was ever discussed with them. Mayor Bradley feels that the installation of a school zone should have occurred when the school was built and it wasn't done. His preference would be the ones that flash. Perhaps we could partner with the school. Councilor Fahndrich thinks that is a very good idea. Councilor Eichler noticed a new crosswalk at the Janus School, and wondered if that was just painted because they have the pavilion across the street at Little Chiques where they do some environmental studies. A yellow pedestrian sign was also added. The new crosswalk did not come before this committee. Borough Manager Pugliese will talk to Dennis about it at the next staff meeting. Mayor Bradley suggested that the Borough Manager reach out to Janus school after the staff meeting regarding school zone. Borough Manager Pugliese explained that PennDOT has guidelines on municipal roads for school zones. One of the things

they look at is the length of the driveway going up to the school. A quick look at the map appears that they may qualify for a school zone. If they are walking students across the street, it would be a great place for the rapid rectangular flashing beacons; push the button and a yellow light comes on signaling the traffic. Councilor Fahndrich said she was in Kennett Square and did a lot of walking and they have push button signals at nearly every crosswalk. That town is about the same size as Mount Joy. We have a grant in for twenty-eight of those signs. Mayor Bradley said that beyond getting grant dollars, are there any other areas that need to be addressed that we should consider to start budgeting for them. Also, mentioned that Josh Deering should add this area to the speed table list.

Market at Mount Joy Events September 9th, 16th, 23rd

Chief Goshen deferred to Sheri Bare and Eric Roering. Voyage's first event is a Market every Thursday in September from 3:30pm to 6:30pm at the old John S. Buffenmeyer Lumber Company at the west end of town. They will have flow signs so everyone can move efficiently through the area, but wanted to make sure traffic was not an issue. They will do their utmost to keep traffic moving. From Main Street, people would turn in and go left for parking and to the right for the vendors. If traffic becomes an issue, Chief Goshen will circle back and reach out to Eric Roering. Mayor Bradley suggested placing cones on the double yellow lines on Main Street where they are entering/exiting; Chief Goshen will think about the cones as he would prefer that a person be present if there are cones on the roadway. Sheri Bare explained that ideally, they would like people to come in Lemon, down Clay and out Orange. He also reminded the group not to put signs on any regulatory signs, i.e., speed or stop signs. They don't have any signs to put up other than banners that sit in front of the Legion's sign that is v-shaped and they will have an open flag to draw attention. They are looking at some signs for entrance and parking directives. Councilor Eichler noticed the sign off of Main Street about the events and said it was nice. Eric Roering said they have had good response and have almost eighteen vendors, nice mix of local and local-ish vendors so far. The Baptist church has given permission to use their parking lot too.

PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street, commented about the Janus School; doesn't feel the crossing is new that when the pavilion went up, Rapho redid Lefever. Also, sidewalks are on the east side but the west side is just a pad. The Borough put that on the exemption list except from Main to first part of Stauffer. When the committee was talking speed humps/speed tables, in Public Works, they were talking about possibly using speed humps; hard plastic ones; seen more in residential areas or private parking driveways, like the ones by Turkey Hill/Penn State Health/Giant; there are two hard ones there that are movable but are pounded into the ground with spikes so in theory

you can move them to various streets once folks start slowing down versus the speed tables which are very expensive, but maybe at Kid's Joyland it may be beneficial. Borough Manager Pugilese said they are not PennDot approved traffic control devices so they cannot be used on a public street. Josh Deering explained that the tables on Schwanger Road are able to be driven over at 30-35 mph. He also inquired on how many digital traffic signs we have in the Borough. Chief Goshen said that we have three that are all out. The only caveat is that when the temperature drops below freezing, they have to be removed. Currently with all the new batteries, we get 5-7 days out of them, depending on the road they are on.

Councilor Eichler inquired if there are solar powered/enhanced speed signs. Chief Goshen plans to move to solar down the road. We can also hard wire the current signs for consistent roads that require speed signs.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Councilor Eichler inquired as to who owns the property between the railroad siding of the Mount Joy Family Restaurant and the Amtrak live lines (the wooded area) on the south side of Main Street. It is an unused, underutilized parcel. Mayor Bradley suggested that he reach out to Stacie Gibbs who may have information on that property.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS

The committee went into Executive Session to discuss the contract at 19:54 Hrs. and ended at 20:13 Hrs. No decisions were made.

ADJOURNMENT

At 20:14 Hrs. Councilor Eichler made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Diana Ellis