

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

October 25, 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 October 25, 2021 as presented was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion carried unanimously. Agenda has been adopted as presented.

PUBLIC INPUT

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street, Mount Joy had a vision and to spur some conversation for Barbara Street to Marietta Avenue in that over the last five years when the bridge was being replaced, traffic was being rerouted to Market or New Haven and didn't seem to be a problem. Now that the bridge has been replaced, he wanted an update on rerouting 772 and thoughts on making Marietta one way from Sassafras to Main Street which would create some additional parking on the other side of the street. If we eliminate the left turn lane from Main onto Marietta, we could go back to angled parking and help the businesses in that area. You could create a larger bump out so people are only crossing two lanes of traffic. Mayor Bradley stated this was the idea, but the holdup was the rerouting of 772. It is still part of the vision. He thinks the conversation should continue and get an update on 772. Councilor Fahndrich will provide Borough Manager Pugliese with her file on what has been done so far on the rerouting of 772.

Jeff Chaby, 270 Rapho Street, Manheim was concerned about a safety issue at Church and Angle Streets. There is no street sign at that crosswalk and intersection. He expressed his concern a year or more ago and nothing has been done so he thought he would appear in person and explain the situation. Mayor Bradley agreed for safety and navigational purposes, that is a major intersection and should have a street sign. Borough Manager Pugliese will bring it up with the Public Works Director at the staff meeting tomorrow.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes for the September 27, 2021 Public Safety Committee Meeting was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion carried unanimously. Minutes have been approved as presented.

FDMJ REPORT

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

EMA REPORT

Matt Kratz was not in attendance; no report received.

PSH LIFE LION REPORT

As agreed at last month's meeting, Councilor Fahndrich reached out to Adam Marden about meeting attendance but did not hear back. Per Chief Goshen, Adam Marden was not in attendance tonight due to illness but his report was submitted and is included in the packet. In reviewing the report, Councilor Eichler questioned the number of calls handled by Northwest EMS (86). Chief Goshen explained that PSH is providing the same report as SVEMS. The report doesn't indicate what they are doing during that time when the calls were handled by another unit. Also included in your packet is an email from one of our Sergeants indicating that there was no ambulance in the Borough for an entire shift. Chief Goshen feels we should rephrase the question or clarify the answer, i.e. What shifts are you missing? When there is no bus available, is it due to lack of staffing? He would prefer to hear from PSH as to why they cannot cover a shift. Mayor Bradley concurred with Chief Goshen on the report. He is interested in knowing why the shifts are not covered and where the units are being staged in order to cover multiple districts. On September 23, 2021 the unit was in Columbia. He understands mutual aid needs to happen, but it would be good to know how often it is occurring. If units are sitting at Sheetz, that is problematic. Borough Manager Pugliese met with PSH in August and last week had a zoom call with the EMS Advisory Board for managers of the municipalities that are covered by Penn State. On that call, they explained that they are trying to open communications. PSH explained they are operating at 60% staffing, currently running an EMT class of five; hope to be up to 75-80% staffing by the end of the year. They hope to do a marketing blitz in the near future. Borough Manager Pugliese offered to put something on the Borough's Facebook page when they have the material ready. Transports will resume in August 2022 when the new hospital is operational. Borough Manager Pugliese will be meeting with PSH on Thursday.

OLD BUSINESS

EMS Service Contracts

Borough Manager Pugliese has the list approved by Council to review with PSH on Thursday. He agreed that they need to do a better job with reporting; providing further clarification on why calls were missed. Also, interested in knowing if they are covering any calls for Northwest EMS (86).

Parking

Councilor Fahndrich will ask Councilor Castaldi to work with her on the parking permit. In reviewing what she has written, she reiterated that Public Safety will ensure all paperwork is in place and forward to Council. She questioned the appeal process. Mayor Bradley did not feel there was a need for an appeal process as Council will make the decision so there is no one else to appeal to. In general, regardless of which way the decision goes, criteria would be that you cannot resubmit another petition in less than a calendar year. Nothing ties Council's hands. Other unresolved pieces after it is passed...Is there a limitation on the amount of residential parking permits per property? If a resident has a parking permit, does that mean no guests are permitted to park? Can you get a residential parking permit if you have a driveway? Those issues need to be ironed out as well.

Feral Cats

Councilor Fahndrich relayed that Manheim Township is having the same problem. She sent an email to Pet Pantry for spring dates but has not received a response. She reached out to Alley Cats but hasn't found a local person to attend one of our meetings. She phoned Lancaster SPCA but no response and still no response from the Department of Ag. She is still looking for a municipality who had a problem and effectively monitored their feral cat communities. Mayor Bradley knows someone who just did his Master's in Public Administration, specifically on feral and free roaming cat population and policy and will reach out to him. Borough Manager Pugliese stated that Mountville Borough trapped the feral cats in their area, held them at Public Works until the cats were spayed/neutered and then returned them to where they were captured.

NEW BUSINESS

Temporary Parking for 115 E. Main Street (Jon's Tax Service)

Chief Goshen forwarded an email from Jon Sattazahn, owner of Jon's Tax Service, requesting that the handicap sign be changed to a two-hour parking sign. His business is located just outside the two-hour parking line. Chief Goshen suggested that perhaps he could utilize two-hour temporary parking

signage in front of his business from January 15 through May 15 from 8am to 9pm, as requested in his email, in line with what was done during COVID but would need to be presented at Public Safety Committee meeting. Mayor Bradley explained that when the building was purchased, he was aware of the parking situation. It is hard to draw the line. Councilors Fahndrich and Eichler both concurred with Mayor Bradley, as we have had other businesses in the same situation and we were not able to accommodate them. The handicap sign was removed per Chief Goshen and he will reach out to Mr. Sattazahn about the decision at this meeting.

Christmas Tree Decorating Event (1st Blk. of Marietta Avenue)

Chief Goshen forwarded an email from Curt Herneisen, Fire Police, requesting permission to intermittently close Marietta Avenue from Main to Henry Streets from 6am to 12noon on November 20, 2021. No action needed; just an advisement.

Agency Reports

Mayor Bradley brought up the discussion about the lack of reports from Fire and EMA. These reports should be coming to Public Safety Committee first before going to Council. There is no opportunity for this Committee to discuss the reports/ask questions in advance of Council. EMA does not submit a report unless there is an event to be approved. Fire Department submits their report to Council, but should have representation at the Public Safety Committee. Of all of the safety departments, Police is the only one represented at the meeting. We should spell out our expectations of the other emergency services departments. Councilor Eichler agrees that if it is on the Agenda, representation and/or report needs to be provided at the Public Safety meetings. All emergency services departments should submit a report for the month prior. Borough Manager Pugliese will reach out to the individuals for written reports and if possible, attendance from Fire and EMA at the Public Safety Committee meetings.

PUBLIC INPUT

Dave Schell, MSMJ, wanted to thank the Public Safety Committee, Police Department and Josh Deering/Public Works for all of their assistance at Trick or Treat on October 22, 2021 (fourth Friday event). This was the biggest crowd ever; lots of good comments about the road closure. Next year, they are going to try to do something for the adults and possibly put vendors in the street.

Josh Deering, 33 Frank Street, relayed that in the town he had lived in had residential permit parking and you were able to get 48-hour guest parking passes if you knew you were having visits from relatives/friends. As far as Jon's Tax Service parking issue, Josh Deering was curious about the relationship between Mr. Sattazahn and the bank as

there is a parking lot across the alley that the bank might be willing to allow him to use and some other options.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Councilor Eichler brought up the condition of the Norfolk Southern rails and siding on West Main Street by the Mount Joy Diner, which he mentioned to Public Works in the past. He is concerned for the safety of the drivers heading westbound as they are veering to the right to avoid bad spots on the tracks, and if someone isn't familiar with people negotiating around the tracks, an incident could occur. Also, the condition of the tracks is getting worse. Dave Schell, MSMJ said that the new owners of the flour mill does not use the tracks, but may in the future and Reist Popcorn doesn't use the tracks anymore. Borough Manager Pugliese will reach out to Norfolk Southern.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS

An Executive Session was not held.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Submitted by Diana Ellis