

## **Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes**

**October 26, 2020**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Councilor Fahndrich at 18:31 Hrs. In light of the Coronavirus Emergency Declarations issued by the Borough of Mount Joy, the Governor of Pennsylvania and the President of the United States, this public meeting was held as a virtual meeting.

### **ROLL CALL**

Present were: Councilor Fahndrich, Councilor Eichler, Councilor Castaldi, Mayor Bradley, and Chief Goshen. Interim Borough Manager Casey Kraus was also present.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion to adopt the Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda for October 26, 2020 was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion to adopt the Agenda carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Sheri Bare of 66 East Main Street, Mount Joy, owns a business located at 64 East Main Street, Mount Joy, expressed her concern with the potential new hours discussed at last month's meeting in the two-hour area from 8am to 8pm Monday through Saturday to 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday and unlimited parking on weekends. She is concerned that the proposed hours will inhibit customers to the businesses downtown, with the two-hour grace period at the beginning and at the end, we would only have legal parking from 11am to 3pm.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the Minutes for the Public Safety Committee meeting held on September 28, 2020 with the amended roll call, was made by Councilor Castaldi, seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion to approve the amended Minutes carried unanimously.

### **FDMJ REPORT**

FDMJ Chief Gohn was not in attendance; no report received to date.

## **EMA REPORT**

Matt Kratz was not in attendance; no report received to date.

## **SVEMS REPORT**

Captain Blanchflower was not in attendance; no report received to date.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Parking Issues

Mayor Bradley wanted further clarification on the grace period on ticketing with the proposed new hours and discussed the reasoning on the proposed hours. Retail shops close on Saturdays around 5pm to 6pm and the restaurants are open much later. Currently the two-hour parking is Monday through Saturday 8am to 8pm and it goes down to Barbara Street and a small area further down (one or two spots). Mayor Bradley would like to have data plotted on a map so we can have an informed conversation/decision. Dave Schell of MSMJ will redo a survey and come back to the next meeting with current data. The data will include number of parking spots, average customer count per day, hours of operation, busy times, etc. Councilor Fahndrich expressed her concern with the lack of off-street parking availability for tenants as well, in the business district. Councilors Eichler and Fahndrich agree that more data needs to be obtained and reviewed. Councilor Fahndrich will also finish her discussion with Stacie Gibbs looking at block by block residential versus commercial; which properties are grandfathered or not; where the parking is on Main Street. Councilor Castaldi thinks we should consider a time change in that existing area and feels it is minor and prudent. He also suggests that in conjunction with the train station we should move, at some point, to a two-hour parking restriction around War Memorial Park. Councilor Fahndrich brought up the subject of a pick-up zone for the restaurants in the area; no decisions made.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Traffic Complaint Main Street and Newcomer Road (Dunkin)

LMS is the retail management company responsible for leasing the storefronts in the strip mall. They have a sub company who manages the property and that contact is Marissa Thrasher. Lee Zackarus of a brokerage firm out of NJ owns the property and several hundred other strip malls. Ms. Thrasher was unaware of the issue at Dunkin. She did state that there is an issue with the retraining wall and she is having a meeting with the property engineers to look at the wall and will review the issues with the traffic into their location to see if they can redirect the traffic to move it deeper into the Giant parking lot before they are able to get into Dunkin Donuts. Chief Goshen hasn't yet heard back from her, but the

dialogue has begun. Since this is private property, the police are extremely limited as to what they can do. Councilor Eichler expressed his concern with the congestion on the state highway and traffic hazards. Chief Goshen did state that on two separate occasions he saw emergency vehicles come down through the area with the traffic and the drivers were very respectful, yielding to them, which is very encouraging.

#### MSMJ Request for Winterfest Street Closures

Winterfest will be a little different this year. The location needs to be changed due to time limitations with PennDOT. The hours will be extended to allow more time to browse and visit the event and maintain social distancing. The closure request is from 12noon to 9pm on December 5, 2020 and the actual event hours are 2pm to 7pm. The lots requesting closure are not owned by the Borough so they cannot be closed. Last year, they had thirty-five vendors, in addition to some large food trucks and approximately 4,000 attendees. After much discussion on locations for the event, Councilor Fahndrich made a motion to move to full Council for the request by MSMJ the following closures from 12noon to 9pm on December 5, 2020, Delta Street from Main Street to Henry Street and Henry Street from Delta Street to behind West Main Auto and the closure of Appletree Alley behind St. Mark's property and closure of the municipal lot at Delta and Henry Streets. Councilor Eichler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Request to Hire Part-Time Officer

Chief Goshen requested to hire an additional part-time officer. We are not getting enough volunteers to fill the open shift; hiring a fifth officer will be more conducive to filling the open shifts. This will also eliminate the need for mandatory overtime. The part-time officer criteria will be totally revamped. The part time officers will need to give available time for the upcoming month two weeks prior. Credit will be given for opening up their schedule. The only additional costs are potentially outfitting, equipment and training. Councilor Fahndrich made a motion to move the request to hire a part time officer to full Council. Councilor Castaldi seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 2021 Budget Review

Chief Goshen reviewed his proposed budget for 2021, which is about 1% over last year's budget but due to personnel changes right now it is actually less than last year's; approximately .5% less than the prior year's proposed budget. In Capital Planning, the only things remaining are new in-car camera and body camera systems, which will have an annual cost to it after the initial purchase. Crime Watch has also been added and a new IT provider. Ballistic Vests need to be replaced, but with the assist of a grant. The new police car should be on the road by 2021 and the addition of a vehicle for the Chief. Councilor Fahndrich made a motion that the Public Safety Committee has approved the 2021

preliminary budget with recent personnel changes to be forwarded to the Borough Manager for the budget consideration. Councilor Eichler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Acceptance of Resignation Letter

Mayor Bradley, President of Council and Chief Goshen are in receipt of the resignation from Officer Paul Cook last Friday, October 23, 2020. Councilor Fahndrich made a motion to move to full Council acceptance of the resignation from Officer Paul Cook. Councilor Eichler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD**

Dave Schell, MSMJ, requests permission to place a banner across Main Street for Winterfest using the banner poles. Chief Goshen said that PennDOT, District 8, requires a sixty-day notification so we are out of the timeframe.

Councilor Castaldi inquired about whether or not we could apply for banner permission 4x per year (winter/spring/summer/fall). Chief Goshen explained that the applications have expiration dates and logistical issues.

Karen McCrady of 315 Berry Street, Mount Joy, owns a business at 206 East Main Street, Mount Joy, gave input on Winterfest; expressed her views on parking downtown and a merchant parking map that she recently implemented; thoughts on utilizing flags or traffic cones to help with pick-up service during COVID, even just a temporary fix. She feels 8am to 8pm is still appropriate hours for parking downtown.

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

Mayor Bradley asked for an update on an ordinance for residential permit parking. Councilor Fahndrich will forward the PDF to Interim Borough Manager Kraus for conversion to Word; discussion to continue next month. The merchant map might be a very good resource to review as well.

Councilor Castaldi feels we should separate Agenda item 9a – Parking Issues – into the different parking issues (changing the two-hour downtown parking timeframe; extending the two-hour parking beyond Barbara Street; curbside/pickup space- Mosby's/Witz End/Harvey's BBQ) for future meeting agendas.

Mayor Bradley expressed the need for a finalized Emergency Operations Plan for Winterfest. Chief Goshen recommends that the EMA Coordinator, who is the specialist, should have the primary responsibility for preparing the plan and he can tap into the other resources, i.e. fire, ambulance, police for assistance as needed. Chief Goshen will look for last year's plan. Councilor Fahndrich will reach out to Matt Kratz regarding the

plan. The preliminary plan should be ready for review from all the agencies within two weeks with the final plan no later than one week prior to the event. Please include Dave Schell in the correspondence, as well as Councilors Eichler and Castaldi.

Councilor Castaldi inquired as to what the police department's plan is for Election Day. Chief Goshen explained that extra staffing has been planned county wide. We are adding one additional officer, on overtime, for the Borough and to assist with other departments if needed. The District Attorney's office issued mandates/refresher for constitutional law regarding what the police are allowed and not allowed to do at the polling places and that information has already been disseminated and discussed.

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

The committee went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 20:44 Hrs. and ended at 20:57 Hrs. No decisions were made.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 21:15 Hrs. Councilor Castaldi made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by: Diana Ellis