

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

November 23, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Councilor Fahndrich at 18:30 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 November 23, 2020 was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Castaldi. Motion to adopt the Agenda carried unanimously.

PUBLIC INPUT

No input.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the Minutes for the Public Safety Committee meeting held on October 26, 2020 with the amended roll call, was made by Councilor Eichler, seconded by Councilor Fahndrich. Motion to approve the amended Minutes carried unanimously.

FDMJ REPORT

FDMJ Chief Gohn was not in attendance; no report received to date; typically provided at the Council meeting.

EMA REPORT

Matt Kratz was not in attendance; however, he did send an email with the EMA Winterfest plan with the hopes of finalizing it by next Thursday once all comments are received. He cleared his calendar to attend the next Council meeting.

SVEMS REPORT

Captain Blanchflower reported a total of thirty-seven calls in the Borough; fourteen were Class 1; seven were Class 2; sixteen were Class 3. Call documentation was provided in advance of the meeting; anything this is marked with a 773 was covered by a Mount Joy unit. They recently graduated another class which will enable them to put more ALS providers on the street. They purchased three Lucases (Mount Joy, Columbia and East Hempfield area) which will help eliminate some of the stress in a cardiac arrest. They raised \$1,000 for the Ann Barshinger Cancer Institute through their paint brush cancer awareness tee shirt campaign.

Mayor Bradley inquired about the upcoming retirement of Mike Fitzgibbons and whether or not his position has been filled. Captain Blanchflower stated that he is interviewing candidates and will continue to interact with the company until his replacement is in place and fully trained. The process of doing business will remain the same.

OLD BUSINESS

Parking Issues

Dave Schell of MSMJ emailed a report with what he was tasked with last month and provided a brief synopsis of the report. He spoke with approximately thirty-three businesses downtown and of those, 90% of the businesses feel the two-hour parking does help their business; 10% feel it might hurt their business (due to their patrons spending longer than two hours in their business). Of the 80% that have off street parking (about 1-3 spots), 90% of it is used for their employees; not necessarily for customer parking. Most of the businesses are open Monday through Sunday with their peak operating days/hours being Wednesday through Saturday from 8am to 6pm/7pm. Retailers are open mainly from 9am to 5pm. Overall, the businesses do not want to shorten the parking time. Mayor Bradley stated that the information Dave Schell provided is invaluable and enlightening in addition to the letter received from the Board of the Chamber of Commerce echoing what he and the other merchants have said. Based on the overwhelming response, the committee agreed that the Borough should keep the hours as is. Mayor Bradley thanked Dave Schell for all of his work. Councilor Castaldi inquired about the enforcement and the Chief explained that we are obligated to do the enforcement. The police department created a matrix that has provided 'hot spots' which will assist in the problematic areas. Councilor Fahndrich discussed a business parking map. Discussion on extending two-hour parking beyond Barbara Street, in addition to curbside pickup. Councilor Castaldi mentioned that on Main Street, east of Barbara Street, that there are a couple of thirty-minute parking. Karen McCrady, 315 Berry Street, who owns a business at 206 East Main Street, confirmed that there is only one thirty-minute spot. The committee agreed that the thirty-minute sign

needs to be removed as it is no longer valid and consider replacing it with a two-hour parking sign. The committee will do more research for the next meeting to determine if there is a need for more two-hour parking signs.

Residential Parking Permit Ordinance

Councilor Fahndrich started going through it but has not completed it as she has comments/questions. She is curious as to what the train ridership is now as the Governor announced on Friday that the agencies under his jurisdiction are to be working from home until the end of June 2021 so she feels we have time to work on this. She wants to be proactive, not reactive. Mayor Bradley is looking for an Ordinance that provides for a process for residents to use if needed. The York City Ordinance seems to be the most detailed process. The committee should bring comments to the December meeting so we can have a final review in January and send to Council in February. Councilor Castaldi agreed to assist Councilor Fahndrich in reviewing the Ordinance and inserting Mount Joy Borough language.

NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Timeline for Hiring Process

The proposed timeline has already begun. November 9-21 emails were sent to twenty individuals to confirm interest in employment with MJBPD. Of the twenty emails sent out, thirteen responded. The Civil Service Committee approved the commencement of oral interviews. On November 24, Chief will be sending out directives to those applicants to complete the online application for the Borough. Tentatively, November 30 through December 4 and 5, oral interviews will be conducted with the panel consisting of Chairman Ms. Fahndrich or designee, Mayor Bradley and Chief Goshen. December 7 is the target date for application of the military preference points and that will be the final adjustment of the scoring. December 8 to January 22 background investigations will commence, hopefully ten candidates to perform backgrounds on, with Detective Keiffer and Sergeant Hosking conducting the backgrounds as this is a crucial aspect of the background that has to be completed to make sure the candidates have been vetted. Ideally, January 25 a final list of eligible for hire, the selection of candidates for conditional offer of employment to be presented to the Civil Service Committee and then to the Public Safety Committee. January 26 to 30 is when the psychological and physical examinations will take place. Upon that completion, looking at February 1 to have approval from Council to hire a specific candidate. Councilor Fahndrich would like to add the proposed timeline for the hiring process to the Council meeting on December 7, 2020.

EMA Winterfest Plan

The plan was only received one hour prior to the meeting so the committee members did not have a chance to review it in detail to offer any changes. Dave Schell, MSMJ, reviewed the plan and said it is similar to last year's plan with the change in location. Dave Schell needs to review the new restrictions implemented by Governor Wolf, as to whether or not Winterfest will take place. Two vendors dropped out today due to COVID. The concern is that we may have more restrictions after Thanksgiving. We still need to move forward with the plan so Councilor Eichler agreed to review the plan in detail with Mayor Bradley.

PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

Dave Schell, MSMJ, inquired with the Chief as to whether or not someone from another organization can be trained by the police to enforce parking. Chief explained that the Ordinance does read that enforcement can be done by the police department or parking enforcement personnel. Chief explained that all fine monies come back to the Borough. Citations are filed by the police officers for unpaid tickets as information received. The chalking of the tires is legal in Pennsylvania so that is a non-issue. The old meters were taken out twenty years ago and sold so we are not in possession of them.

ANY OTHER MATTER PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE

Councilor Fahndrich asked Chief Goshen if he has any new information from Dunkin Donuts. He received a voicemail from Ms. Thrasher stating that the engineers are working on a plan that has to do with the retaining wall, which may change the entrance, possibly closing that off and coming in another way.

Councilor Eichler appreciates the festive banners on the poles throughout the town.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS

The committee went into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters at 20:10 Hrs. and ended at 20:42 Hrs. No decisions were made.

ADJOURNMENT

At 20:43 Hrs. Councilor Castaldi made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Councilor Eichler. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by: Diana Ellis