



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 8, 2014

7:30 P.M.

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Durkin called the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

- **Committee members present:** Chairperson Durkin, Councilor Bunker, Councilor Conners, Councilor Farrell, and Councilor Soltysiak
- **Committee members absent:** None.
- **Others present:** Councilor Mixon, Mayor Foley, Chief DiValentino, Manager Locke, Assistant Manager Bashore, Public Works Director Frank, Engineer Hughes, Captain Cline, Chief Connolly, and Chief Lynch.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment at this time.

REPORTS

1. **Police Department:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
2. **Second Alarmers:** There was no report provided.
3. **Pioneer Fire Company:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
4. **Independent Fire Company:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Chief Lynch stated that he is assembling a year-end report for Borough Council.

NEW BUSINESS / ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **Ordinance #2014-1: Pedestrian Crossing:** Chairperson Durkin summarized the proposed ordinance, noting that the Borough did not previously have a pedestrian crossing ordinance in the Jenkintown Borough Code. Chief DiValentino noted issues with crossing at York Rd. and Summit Ave. and thanked the Committee for considering this ordinance to address these issues. Councilor Farrell asked if there would be warning devices installed. Chief DiValentino stated that there would be.

ACTION: On motion of Councilor Conners, seconded by Councilor Bunker, the motion recommending adoption of Ordinance #2014-1 passed unanimously.

2. **Fire Department Training Policy:** Chairperson Durkin stated that he has discussed the proposed Fire Department Training Policy with Borough Fire Chief Connolly. Chairperson Durkin stated that he would like to have this reviewed at a Fire Commission meeting before sending the proposed policy to Borough Council. Chairperson Durkin directed Assistant Manager Bashore to circulate proposed dates for a Fire Commission meeting.
3. **School District - Pick-Up/Drop-Off:** Chief DiValentino reported that the situation during pick-up/drop-off at the School District continues to be an issue. Chairperson Durkin asked if the school district had done anything to address this matter. Chief DiValentino stated that he does not believe any action has been taken, but he is working to schedule a meeting with Dr. Wade, School District Superintendent, to discuss this matter. Chairperson Durkin asked if a Police Department detail was possible. Chief DiValentino stated that this has been discussed and he is developing a plan. Councilor Soltysiak recommended meeting with Dr. Wade prior to placing an officer at the school during pick-up/drop-off. Chairperson Durkin recommended having a conference call with Dr. Wade. Mayor Foley asked if the cul-de-sac on Highland Ave. is used for pick-ups. Councilor Bunker stated that the cul-de-sac is used for pick-ups.

Councilor Mixon noted a concern over emergency vehicles being able to access the school on Florence Ave. and stated that making West Ave. one-way would also impede the ability of emergency vehicles to access the school. Councilor Farrell stated that she has reviewed this issue with Dr. Wade, noting that Dr. Wade had specifically asked for a police officer to be present. Captain Cline stated that he could coordinate the Fire Police to provide traffic control at the school if necessary. Chairperson Durkin recommended a conference call with Chief DiValentino, Councilor Farrell, and Dr. Wade in order to discuss this matter. Chief DiValentino stated that he would coordinate a conference call with Councilor Farrell.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **"No Pedestrian Crossing" signs on York Rd.:** Manager Locke stated that the Public Works Department is currently fabricating the signs and they will be installed by the end of the week. Manager Locke stated that the signs will indicate "No Pedestrian Crossing" and will direct individuals to the controlled crosswalk at the intersection of York Rd. and Greenwood Ave. Councilor Bunker noted that a true crosswalk should be installed at the intersection. Chief DiValentino stated that a crosswalk needs to have some type of traffic control device. Manager Locke stated that he has discussed the possibility of installing a full crosswalk at the intersection of York Rd. and Summit Ave. with the Borough Traffic Engineer, Earl Armitage, P.E., and Mr. Armitage does not believe that PennDOT would approve a crosswalk.
2. **Willow Street - Amended Permit Parking:** Manager Locke stated that letters were sent to the property owners on the 500 block of Willow St. and the Borough received no response. Chairperson Durkin noted that the change will be resident only permit parking from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. and all day on weekends.

ACTION: On motion of Councilor Bunker, seconded by Councilor Conners, the motion recommending approval of the amended permit parking for the 500 block of Willow Street passed unanimously.

- 3. Delayed Green Light Modification - York Rd. & Greenwood Ave.:** Chairperson Durkin stated that Borough Council had previously authorized the Borough Traffic Engineer, Earl Armitage, P.E., to begin re-engineering the traffic signal. Manager Locke reported that the Mr. Armitage, has begun the preliminary work on the modifications to the traffic signal at the intersection of York Rd. and Greenwood Ave. Manager Locke noted that Mr. Armitage is working with the PennDOT representative on this matter.
- 4. West Avenue - line of sight issue:** Manager Locke stated that the administration is seeking approval for the Borough Engineer to produce a plan per PennDOT specifications and the Public Works Department would do the line stripping. Chairperson Durkin asked about the cost. Engineer Hughes stated that he would work with Manager Locke to prepare the proposal. Engineer Hughes stated that he will prepare a proposal that may be forward to Council for review.
- 5. School Zone Lights – West Ave. & Walnut St./Greenwood Ave.:** Manager Locke stated that the Committee had discussed the installation of school zone lights on Walnut Street. Manager Locke stated that the Borough Engineer had forwarded some information on solar school zone lights. Engineer Hughes stated that the cost would be approximately \$18,000 to \$20,000 per light. Engineer Hughes stated that he will put together a proposal. Mayor Foley asked if they would be the overhead lights. Engineer Hughes stated that they would be stand alone lights. Mayor Foley asked who controlled the lights. Manager Locke stated that there is a permit with PennDOT that establishes flash times. Chief Lynch stated that the time clocks might be set up per the school calendar so that they do not flash when school is not in session. The Committee directed Public Works Director Frank to look into adjusting the school zone lights to correspond with the school district’s calendar.

ADJOURNMENT: On motion of Councilor Conners, seconded by Councilor Bunker, the motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.