



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
June 14th, 2017
7:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Call to order: Vice President R. Bunker called the meeting to order.

Attendance:

- **Committee members present:** Councilor K. Farrell, Councilor J. Conners, Councilor C. Soltysiak, and Councilor K. McGlenn
- **Committee members absent:** Chairperson C. Whitney
- **Others present:** Vice President R. Bunker, Borough Manager G. Locke, Engineer K. Hassan, Fire Chief K. Lynch, Fire Marshal K. Lynch, and Police Chief A. DiValentino.

Public Comment: None at this time.

Reports

- **Police Department** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Police Chief A. DiValentino highlighted that he has placed the Grand Jury report of the Opioid epidemic of the Jenkintown Community Facebook page. Police Chief A. DiValentino also wants to remind the residents to lock their car doors due to the recent amount of thefts that have taken place in the area, mostly from unlocked vehicles.
- **Pioneer Fire Company** – A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials
- **Independent Fire Company-** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Fire Chief K. Lynch highlighted that the parade plans for the 4th of July parade are nearing completion.
- **Second Alarmers** – A written report will be provided for the Council meeting.

New Business

1. **Fire Commission Meeting** - Fire Chief K. Lynch highlighted that Pioneer has submitted their response to the VFIS study as well as an ongoing discussion regarding the Knox box ordinance. Fire Chief K. Lynch also stated that the Fire Marshal wants to allow certain “open burning” containers such as chimeneas. The next Fire Commission Meeting will be held on Tuesday June 27th at 6:30pm.
2. **Fire Department Training Assessment** – Vice President R. Bunker highlighted that the responses from the Fire Department’s Training Assessment has been received. Fire Chief K. Lynch highlighted that their response broke it down into could happen, should happen or is not feasible. Vice President R. Bunker wanted to note that Pioneer’s response to the training assessment, in his

opinion, was very negative. Vice President R. Bunker wanted to note that the Fire Commission Council members plan to have a meeting with the Fire Commission and Pioneer regarding their responses to the training study.

3. **Crosswalk on 300 block on Florence Avenue to playground** – Borough Manager G. Locke stated that the Borough had a meeting with the Boroughs Traffic Engineer and Councilor C. Soltysiak to which the Borough's Traffic Engineer has offered their preliminary opinion which has been placed in Dropbox for review. This crosswalk has been included in the 2017 CDBG application. Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that the Borough has met with the Schools Superintendent, Finance Director and the Facilities Manager as they had a couple concerns that they wanted the Borough to be aware about such as requiring a cross guard, and loss of the three parking spots. Engineer K. Hassan stated that there will be signage installed to inform motorists of the crosswalk ahead.
4. **LED Procurement Project Update** – Vice President R. Bunker stated that this topic was discussed in detail during the Public Works Committee however wanted to note that the Borough has addressed the residents complaints regarding the brightness of the lights and action has been taken to reduce the light into homes such as shades being placed on the lights and the angle of the lights being turned towards the road instead of towards the homes. The Borough will resume the project within the next few weeks.
5. **Greenwood Avenue School Safety Zone Report** – Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that the plans have official approval from PennDOT. The Public Works Department has begun marking where the signage and poles will be placed.
6. **School Zone Safety Lights on Walnut Street Update** – Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that the two West Avenue and two lights on Walnut Street have been installed as well as the signage will be installed. Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that the Borough is now just waiting for the punch list to be completed.
7. **Road Closures** – Borough Manager G. Locke wanted to highlight that Public Works Foreman K. Riggins has been meeting with PECO's contractor, Henkles & McCoy, to receive a list of road closures for the following day so that the Borough can email blast, Facebook and post on the website which will allow residents to prepare for the road closures the day before.
8. **Florence Avenue – Storm / Electrical Damage** – Fire Chief K. Lynch highlighted that a tree fell on electrical wires on Florence Avenue between Greenwood Avenue and West Avenue. The damage was extensive, include multiple cars, burnt sidewalk, curb and asphalt. Fire Chief K. Lynch informed the committee that no one was hurt in the process but the job was extensive. The Fire Marshal will be meeting with the owners of the Greenwood Terrace apartments, to discuss the clean up and properly address the issues within and outside of the apartment complex.

Borough Manager G. Locke stated that the Borough has identified the land between the Greenwood Terrace Apartments and the Beaver Hill North building as belonging to the Greenwood Terrace Apartments. The owners of the Greenwood Terrace Apartments would like to build on this section of land, parallel to the current buildings. The preliminary plan that was discussed appears as though it will meet the Borough's Zoning Code but this plan is still in concept.

9. **Proposal for two Part Time Police Officers** – Police Chief A. DiValentino highlighted that the Borough currently has no part time police officers. The Police Department likes to have four part time officers, to help with the staffing of days off and complete details to help alleviate over time. These two part time officers have completed the Police Department standards, and now the Police Department is looking for approval from Council to hire these officers.

Councilor J. Conners made a motion, seconded by Councilor K. McGlenn, to move the proposal to hire two part time officers to full Council on June 26th.

Motion passed unanimously.

- 10. 2 Handicap Sign Requests – 420 Highland Ave & 360 Walnut Street** – Police Chief A. DiValentino has been approached by two residents requesting handicap parking in front of their residence. Police Chief A. DiValentino stated that both residents had all required documentation needed to place a handicap signs in front of the residence. Police Chief A. DiValentino stated that he does believe these handicap spaces are needed.

Old Business

- 1. Resident Concerns regarding Walnut Street** – The Borough's Engineer is continuing to review the information from last month. The Borough has initiated a traffic study for submittal to PennDOT for consideration. This study is to address concerns that came before the committee from a resident regarding the safety of Walnut Street. This resident would like to see a stop sign installed on Walnut Street at Cheltena Avenue only in the north bound lane, as they feel as though it was reduce the speeding and current unsafe conditions of the road.
- 2. Walnut Street Safety Grant** – Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that the signage and striping has been completed by PennDOT. The Borough did receive a few complaints from residents regarding the placement of the sign, to which PennDOT met with the residents and address their concerns. One resident is still unhappy with the design on the sign indicating the road curve, as they believe the sign signals that the curve is too sharp and believes that the sign should be depicted with more of a rounded curve.
- 3. ADA Compliance Ramps on York Road** – Borough Manager G. Locke stated that PennDOT began replacing the non-compliant ADA handicap ramps on York Road. The non-compliant ramps will be replaced from Cheltenham Township to County Line Rd. The Borough is currently concereded about the mid-block cross walk they have installed on York Road by Summit Avenue. A letter has been mailed to Fran Hanney of PennDOT, expressing the Borough's concern regarding this crosswalk as well as two other locations that have no controlled intersection at. Borough Manager G. Locke stated that a consultant reached out the Borough on the behalf of PennDOT regarding the installation of three more handicap ramps at uncontrolled intersections. The consultant then reviewed the field conditions and determined that three additional uncontrolled handicap ramps would not be advisable and also feels as though the three handicap ramps that were installed are not safe. To date, the Borough has not received a response from PennDOT.

Borough Manager G. Locke wanted the committee to know that the Fire Marshal is working on an informational piece to send to residents regarding the open burn policy. The Borough is looking to allow approved containers such as chimeneas to be allowed in the Borough for recreational use. Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that the Borough's Fire Marshal, Kevin Lynch, will be heading this project and the informational piece that goes along with it. Borough Manager G. Locke will continue to update the committee regarding this subject.

- 4. Chapter 135 Street Sales – Ice cream Truck** – Police Chief A. DiValentino wanted to highlight that one ice cream vendor has filled out the required paperwork at Borough Hall and all information has been completed and reviewed by both Borough Administration and the Police Department. Police Chief A. DiValentino wanted to note that they have been receiving less and less complaints regarding the ice cream truck. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that the ice cream vendor that applied for a solicitation permit will be brought before Council to be voted on.

Borough Manager G. Locke highlighted that the Police Department does have a copy of the current vendors information, license and the requirements / limitations set by the Borough on the requirements that must be met.

Adjournment: On motion of Vice President R. Bunker, seconded by Councilor C. Soltysiak, the motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.