



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Call to order:** Chairperson C. Whitney called the meeting to order.

**Attendance:**

- **Committee members present:** Chairperson C. Whitney, Councilor J. Conners, Councilor K. Farrell, and Councilor A. MacHaffie.
- **Committee members absent:** Councilor M. Ashton Young, Councilor K. McGlenn and Councilor C. Soltysiak
- **Others present:** Borough Manager G. Locke, Mayor A. Dobbs, Engineer M. Bickerton, Fire Chief G. Bachman, Fire Chief 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.
- **Pioneer Fire Company** – Fire Chief G. Bachman noted that a written will be given to Fire Chief K. Lynch. Additionally, Fire Chief G. Bachman noted that they are working hard to close out a grant they received for \$14,000 from the State.
- **Independent Fire Company**- A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Fire Chief K. Lynch wanted to thank the Administration for their help with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.
- **Fire Police** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
- **Second Alarmers** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.

**New Business**

1. **Fire Commission Meeting**– Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the July Fire Commission meeting is set for Thursday, July 19th, 6:30 PM at Pioneer Fire House.
2. **2019 Purchase of Fire Apparatus Vehicle** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that Borough Council has authorized initiating the purchase process. The cost/finance calculations will be sent to the Administration & Finance Committee in July. Independent Fire Company continues working with the Borough Solicitor and Borough Administration to complete the contractor ordering process.

3. **Purchase of Police Vehicle** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the Ford Explorer was delivered to the Borough and has been placed in service.
4. **Walnut Street Parking Issue** – Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that there has been a series of complaints regarding cars parking on Walnut Street. Since then, Police Chief A. DiValentino has begun implementing no parking on the sidewalk in July and have only issued four parking tickets to those who have parked on the sidewalk. Residents are still allowed to park along Walnut Street. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the change has been going well. The Police Department has not received any complaints regarding sideswiped mirrors and/or cars.
5. **Meeting with Cheltenham & Abington Townships regarding signal at Washington Lane & Township Line Road** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the PennDOT Transportation Manager reached out to the Borough Manager and invited the Borough to submit an application for the Automated Red Light Enforcement Project (ARLE) to replace the traffic light system at Township Line and Washington Lane. PennDOT sees this as an opportunity to interconnect this intersection with the traffic lights on York Road. This intersection has joint responsibility with the Borough, Cheltenham and Abington Townships. The traffic light system is antiquated, in need of replacement. The Borough has passed a Resolution in support of this grant and PennDOT will be handling the submittal for the three municipalities.

Borough Manager G. Locke noted that Mark Bickerton, Traffic Engineer from Pennoni Associates, wrote the grant. The Borough was able to discuss the grant with Cheltenham and Abington Townships and was able to agree to go in for the grant together for approximately \$450,000 grant with a 0% match. The Borough is hopeful that they will receive this grant as PennDOT District 6 highly recommended that the Municipalities apply for this grant. Engineer M. Bickerton noted that the grant was submitted this past Friday, July 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **Old Business**

1. **FEMA 2017 SAFER** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the application was submitted prior to deadline. The Borough has requested the grant in the amount of \$175,000 and it will cover financial compensation for time spent responding to emergency calls and hours spent on training as well as provide funding for recruitment campaigns. This grant is a zero match and is 100% funded by the Federal Government.
2. **Proposed Roadway Safety Improvements** – Chairperson C. Whitney highlighted that the Borough has worked with our Engineer, the Public Works Department and the Administration to identify areas of needed safety improvement. This year the Borough has added the placement of a speed hump on Cedar Street and safety striping at Hillside Avenue and Walnut Street that will include four Colonial Style crosswalks and 24" stop bars at all four approaches. The cost of these safety improvements was included in the 2018 paving project.

Borough Manager G. Locke noted that himself, President D. Pancoe, Police Chief A. DiValentino and Traffic Engineer M. Bickerton met with Alexandria Khalil and Jackie Connolly, who reside on Leedom Street, today as they have voiced concerns regarding speeding on Leedom Street. These residents will be appearing before the committee in September with a signed petition to have a speed hump installed on their street, between West Avenue and Cherry Street. Engineer M. Bickerton noted that a preliminary review has been completed of the site and it appears as though one can fit. Councilor K. Farrell asked if the Borough needs

to complete a traffic study to install the speed hump. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that a traffic study is not required to be completed, however the Borough will engage Pennoni Associates to complete one.

- 3. Walnut Street Striping: Greenwood Avenue to Runnymede Avenue – Chairperson C.** Whitney highlighted that Borough Council had authorized Pennoni Associates to begin to look at the cost of striping Walnut Street from Greenwood Avenue to Runnymede Avenue. The Borough owns the portion of Walnut Street between Greenwood and West Avenues which is roughly about 900'. Pennoni has estimated that it would cost the Borough approximately \$4,140.00 to stripe the Borough owned portion. The Borough continues to obtain striping quotes including the possibility of using the PennDOT contractor to perform the striping. PennDOT owns the section of Walnut Street between West and Runnymede Avenues which is rough 1500'. PennDOT is amenable to adding this section to their list of required striping, however they can't provide a firm commitment as to when they will be out there. The crews are working in Bucks County right now and are not anticipated back in Montgomery County until the end of summer, approximately 3-4 month wait minimum.
- 4. Vernon Road One Way Safety Concern – Chairperson C.** Whitney noted that the concerns have been voiced to the Borough regarding traffic traveling the wrong way on Vernon Road to access Vista Road. The Public Works Department installed "Do Not Enter" signs on Vernon Road at Clement Road. The Borough has also asked our Engineer to look at the conditions while evaluating possible additional signage/stripping on Vista Road to see if the projects can be combined to make the area safer while providing a cost saving benefit.
- 5. Vista Road: School Safety – Chairperson C.** Whitney noted that the speed study was performed by the JPD. The Borough Engineer investigated the possibility of installing a "School Safety Zone" the factors do not warrant a school safety zone. The Borough Engineer, Jenkintown Police Department and the Public Works Department installed two (2) "Watch Children" safety signs. Due to a resident on Vista Road complaining about the location of the sign, the Public Works Department will be relocating the sign. The Borough Engineer has been asked by Council to observe and recommend additional striping and possibility of a speed hump to increase safety. The Borough Speed trailer has been placed on Vista Road and the Police have increased patrols and observation of the area.

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