



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
June 13th, 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, Councilor M. Ashton Young and Councilor C. Soltysiak.
- **Committee members absent:** Councilor K. McGlenn
- **Others present:** President D. Pancoe, Vice President R. Bunker, Borough Manager G. Locke, Mayor A. Dobbs, Engineer K. Hassan, Fire Chief G. Bachman, Fire Chief K. Lynch, and Police Chief A. DiValentino.

Public Comment: None at this time.

Mayor A. Dobbs wanted to thank the Jenkintown Police Department for assisting with the Sunset 5K run. Mayor A. Dobbs noted that with the help of the Police Department the annual run went smoothly as we had over 800 participants in town. Mayor A. Dobbs also wanted to thank the Rec Board, the Jenkintown Public Works Department and the Jenkintown Police Department for the weekly summer music series.

Reports

- **Police Department** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Police Chief A. DiValentino highlighted that they have completed their safety training on June 8th at the School for the elementary kids for bike safety and pedestrian safety.
- **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 noted that he and Fire Marshal K. Lynch attended the School Board meeting on Monday June 11th to begin the discussion of the bonfire.
- **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

Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department is looking to host the full-time eligibility patrol officers test that is completed by the Civil Service Commission. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department is currently down an officer as he has gone to Springfield Township. Currently, the list that was completed in 2015 is not active any longer and the Police Department is hoping to begin the testing in the late summer / early fall.

Chairperson C. Whitney made a motion, seconded by Councilor K. Farrell, to move the request for full-time eligibility exam for the Jenkintown Police Department to full Council. Motion passed unanimously.

Mike Hill from E Consult Solutions, appeared before the committee to discuss various funding opportunities, including the BUILD grant, which can be obtained to help offset the costs of building a parking structure down town. Mr. Hill noted that his firm, E Consult Solutions, can work, consult and help the Borough to apply for grants to build this structure.

- 1. Fire Commission Meeting**– Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the May Fire Commission meeting was held for Thursday, May 24th, 6:30 PM at Independent Fire House. The next FC meeting is set for Thursday, July 19th, 6:30 PM at Pioneer Fire House. Vice President R. Bunker noted that Pioneer Fire Company has made progress in obtaining the training certifications.
- 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. Fire Chief K. Lynch noted that the Borough Solicitors questions have been answered and the Fire Company is ready to move forward with the purchase.
- 3. Walnut Street Parking Issue** – Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that there has been a series of complaints regarding cars parking on Walnut Street. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the years ago, Police Department has allowed parking on the sidewalk on Walnut Street as long as they did not block the whole sidewalk. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that state law and the Borough ordinance state that you cannot park on the sidewalk. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that there are three options: that they can continue parking status quo, enforce no parking on the sidewalk but still allow residents to park on Walnut Street or remove parking on Walnut Street all together. Police Chief A. DiValentino highlighted that there are only 11 cars that park on Walnut Street. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department has no issue with enforcing no parking on Walnut Street, should that be what the Board would like, however those people who park on Walnut Street will have to park in alternative places such as Hillside Avenue. President D. Pancoe asked if the Police Department reached out to the residents that park on Walnut Street. Police Chief A. DiValentino stated that he did.
- 4. 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.

5. 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, a minimum wait time of 3-4 months.

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. Purchase of Police Vehicle – Chairperson C.** Whitney noted that the Ford Explorer was delivered, painted and is currently being fitted out with all required accessories. There was a delay on the camera system and the vehicle is expected to be delivered to the Borough shortly.
- 3. 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 Green Light Go Grant to replace the traffic light system at Township Line and Washington Lane as this light is antiquated, in need of replacement. There is an additional grant through the County that would pay half of the required match. This intersection has joint responsibility with the Borough, Cheltenham and Abington Townships. A meeting has been set with all parties in late June. Additionally, PennDOT sees this as an opportunity to interconnect this intersection with the traffic lights on York Road.
- 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/strip 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.

Fire Chief K. Lynch noted that they have been in communication with the School District to become an approved agency to help the students achieve their volunteer hours needed to graduate. Fire Chief K. Lynch also noted that they will be hosting another camp this year like last summer to show the community what the Fire Company does. Fire Chief K. Lynch noted that the camp will run from late July into late August.

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