



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

October 11th, 2018

7:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

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

Attendance:

- **Committee members present:** Chairperson J. Conners, Councilor C. Whitney, Councilor K. Farrell and Councilor C. Soltysiak.
- **Committee members absent:** Councilor K. McGlenn and Councilor M. Ashton Young.
- **Others present:** President D. Pancoe, Vice President R. Bunker, Borough Manager G. Locke, Mayor A. Dobbs, Engineer K. Hassan, Public Works Foreman K. Riggins, Police Chief A. DiValentino, Fire Chief K. Lynch, Fire Marshal K. Lynch, and Fire Chief G. Bachman.

Public Comment: Elizabeth Hummel, 408 Leedom Street, appeared before the Committee to discuss the permit parking issue on the 400 block of Leedom Street. Ms. Hummel noted that from the hours of 5:00pm until 7:00am Monday thru Friday and all day during the weekends there is no enforcement of the permit parking requirements on Leedom Street. Ms. Hummel noted that currently there are already a significant amount of cars on the block and to not enforce the permit parking requirement only requires those residents with permits to find parking at other locations on other blocks. Ms. Hummel noted that the Police Department does respond when called however, does not want to call the Police every time they notice a car without a permit.

Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department does respond when the Parking Enforcement Officer is not in, however will discuss adding an additional Parking Enforcement Officer into the 2019 Police Department budget.

Reports

- **Police Department** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that there has been a number of home burgerlies within Abington Township and Upper Moreland Township. Police Chief A. DiValentino urges residents to call 911 should they see something suspicious.
- **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 applying for the yearly grant with the state.
- **Independent Fire Company**- A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Fire Chief K. Lynch noted that Fire Prevention week has begun and they have visited the Little Joes pre-school as well as the Jenkintown School District.
- **Fire Police** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.

- **Second Alarmers** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.

Fire Marshal K. Lynch wanted to note that they have begun a “hard canvas” of the 300 block of Cedar Street. Fire Marshal K. Lynch noted that there was a fire at 310 Cedar Street during the end of September. Fire Marshal K. Lynch noted that the Fire Department has been visiting residents within the area and discussed fire safety prevention as there were not many smoke detectors alarming during the fire incident itself.

New Business

1. **Fire Commission Meeting**– Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the October Fire Commission meeting has not been scheduled at this time.
2. **Police Department Speed Trailer** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the speed trailer was involved in an accident in the middle of August. Speed trailer was totaled and not salvageable for repair. Insurance Company of the individual who hit the speed trailer will cover the cost. Police Department have ordered the new speed trailer. There is a four to five week lead time. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the speed trailer is a new state of the art trailer that can also complete a traffic count.
3. **Fire Prevention Night** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that Fire prevention night will be held tomorrow night, October 11th, from 6:30 PM until 8:30 PM in Town Square and on Leedom Street between West Avenue & Greenwood Avenue. Leedom Street from the parking lot entrance to Greenwood Avenue will be closed to thru traffic. Fire Chief K. Lynch noted that should it be raining during the event, each Fire Company would hold a Fire Prevention event. This change in location would be sent via email and placed on all social media outlets.

Old Business

1. **2019 Purchase of Fire Apparatus Vehicle** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that this is on schedule and continual coordination with Independent Fire Company and manufacturer during fitout process. Independent Fire Company Deputy Chief B. Pross noted that there was a pre-construction meeting held at the end of August at the manufacturing plant. Currently Spartan is moving forward with the building of the chassis and once completed will be shipped to Ephrata PA for building. Independent Fire Company Deputy Chief B. Pross noted that the truck should be completed by August / September 2019.
2. **Proposed Roadway Safety Improvements** – Chairperson C. Whitney highlighted that the Borough has worked with our Engineer, Public Works 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 (4) Colonial Style (piano keys) crosswalks and 24” stop bars at all four approaches. The cost of these safety improvements were included in the 2018 paving project. The Borough is expecting this work to be completed in October.

3. **2018 ARLE Grant application with Cheltenham & Abington Townships regarding signal at Washington Lane & Township Line Road** – Chairperson C. Whitney highlighted that the Borough has passed a Resolution in support of this grant and Pennoni Association Inc. have handled the submittal for the three municipalities. Engineer K. Hassan noted that the grant was submitted in early July. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that the Borough will be receiving a bill for \$3,000 for the writing of the grant from Pennoni Associates, however Jenkintown Borough, Cheltenham Township and Abington Township are all paying \$1,000 of the grant writing fee.
4. **Vernon Road One Way Safety Concern** – Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the concerns have been voiced to the Borough concerning traffic traveling the wrong way on Vernon Road to access Vista Road. PW installed “Do Not Enter” signs on Vernon Road at Clement Road. The Borough Engineer has been asked 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 Borough Engineer, Jenkintown Police Department and the Public Works Department worked to install two (2) “Watch Children” safety signs. The Borough Engineer has been asked by Council to observe and recommend additional striping and possibility of a speed hump to increase safety. Engineer K. Hassan noted that Traffic Engineer M. Bickerton completed an evaluation and will be issuing a safety memo within the next few days.
6. **Fire Department Training – Update** - Chairperson C. Whitney noted that the training records have been submitted and will be discussed more at the October Fire Commission meeting, however, the Borough is looking to revise the Fire Department ordinance to allow for one set of Fire Department chain of command as well as one Departmental standard operating guidelines. Vice President R. Bunker noted that this would be an operational merger with two houses still being utilized. It was noted that it is not the Borough’s intention to remove one house or the other, but to combine them for a smooth operational standpoint.

Mayor A. Dobbs asked for a update on the light in front of the Chelsea that was discussed last month. Mayor A. Dobbs noted that the light is not long enough for the residents to cross safely. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that the light is working per permit, which is 21 seconds. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that the Borough Traffic Engineer along with PennDOT have begun the permit process to increase the time allowed for pedestrian crossing. It appears as though PennDOT is considering increasing the time to 30 seconds for the 40 foot crossing. Mayor A. Dobbs was not satisfied with that and would like the Borough to approach PennDOT for a minute or more. Borough Manager G. Locke and Engineer K. Hassan noted that they will talk to PennDOT about increasing the time larger than the allowable maximum.

President D. Pancoe also noted that the light at Greenwood Avenue and York Road appeared to be not long enough as a gentleman on crutches could not cross the street safely. Engineer K. Hassan noted that he will look into that light and report back next month.

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