



## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**7:30 p.m.**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**Call to order:** Councilor J. Lugar called the meeting to order.

**Attendance:**

- **Committee members present:** Councilor J. Lugar, Vice President J. Conners, Councilor C. Soltysiak, Councilor M. Marlowe and Councilor K. Farrell.
- **Committee members absent:** Councilor K. McGlenn, and Chairperson C. Whitney.
- **Others present:** Councilor A. Khalil, President D. Pancoe, Borough Manager G. Locke, Engineer M. Bickerton, Public Works Foreman K. Riggins, Police Chief A. DiValentino.

**Public Comment:** Katie Costandino, 418 Hillside Avenue, and Angela Devers, 415 Hillside Avenue, appeared before the committee to discuss the speeding along the 400 block of Hillside Avenue. Ms. Costandino noted that the parents along the 400 block constantly yell at speeding cars. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department conducted a 24 hour speed study and had a car count of 998. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that there were zero cars going 30 mph or above with the average speed of 19mph. Police Chief A. DiValentino also noted that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile was 23mph. The speed limit along this stretch of Hillside Avenue is 25 mph. Additionally, Police Chief A. DiValentino reviewed accidents at the intersection of Walnut Street & Hillside Avenue and noted that since 2017, there were three non-reportable accidents. Finally Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department conducted a 5 day speed study along Walnut Street at Hillside Avenue and had a car count of 29,876. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the average speed of was 26mph with the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile traveling at a speed of 31mph. The speed limit along this stretch of Walnut Street is 25 mph. Ms. Costandino noted that although they may be the numbers, the perception is that the cars are driving much faster. Ms. Costandino also believes the speed hump along Hillside Avenue skews the information. Ms. Devers also noted that she does not walk her children up Walnut Street due to the speeding and walks her children across Walnut Street and down Hillside Avenue to Highland Avenue. Councilor J. Lugar noted the residents concerns and asked Police Chief A. DiValentino what the protocol is to determine if a crossing guard should be at Walnut Street and Hillside Avenue. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the decision is up to Council and the School Board.

### **Reports**

- **Police Department** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that he attended "A Day in Their Shoes" at Bishop McDevitt high school. Additionally, Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department attended a Safe Schools Conference in Harrisburg on October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Finally, Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Montco Incident Management Task Force had their first meeting today and he was in attendance. Mayor A. Dobbs noted that she had the organizational chart for the Police Department which can be further discussed during the Sergeants Exam portion of the agenda.

- **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 Police** - A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
- **Second Alarmers** – A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
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## **New Business**

1. **Fire Commission Meeting** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that the October Fire Commission meeting is being held Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.
2. **Sale / Storage fees – Independent Aerial Apparatus** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that Councilor A. Khalil requested that this item be placed on the agenda. Councilor Khalil wanted to know who is paying for the storage of the old ladder truck and how much is the storage fee? Since Independent was tasked with selling it and it is not sold she believe they should pay for the storage fee. Councilor J. Lugar noted that this agenda item will be followed up on due to Fire Chief K. Lynch attending Fire Prevention night.
3. **Fire Prevention** – Councilor J. Lugar highlighted that the October fire prevention is being held tonight on the 600 block of Greenwood Avenue.
4. **Fire Department Training - Cedar Street Structures** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that Councilor A. Khalil requested that this item be placed on the agenda. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that he was approached by Fire Chief K. Lynch and Fire Marshal K. Lynch about training in the structures once remediation takes place. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that there are not many chances that the Fire Department is able to train in structures that are within town. There would be no fire. Borough Manager G. Locke is still working with Fire Chief K. Lynch and Fire Marshal K. Lynch regarding this training, however will be notifying all neighbors about the training and the fire apparatus along the property. Once more information is received, Borough Manager G. Locke will inform the committee.
5. **Fire Department Supervision of Cedar Street / Moretti Park Demolition** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that Councilor A. Khalil requested that this item be placed on the agenda. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that dust control is needed on site, which he asked Fire Chief K. Lynch if he can approach Pioneer Fire Company about assisting. Fire Chief K. Lynch had no problem and Borough Manager G. Locke will be coordinating with Pioneer Chief G. Bachman for the Engine to be on site to help mitigate dust.
6. **Solar Stop Sign – Walnut Street & Hillside Avenue** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that Police Chief A. DiValentino requested that this item be placed on the agenda. Police Chief A. DiValentino would like to install flashing red lights above the stop signs on Walnut Street at Hillside Avenue. Engineer M. Bickerton noted that this section of Walnut Street is a state road, which would require a TE-160 and PennDOT approval. To install these lights, the Borough would be looking at \$25,000 installation due to the light having to be installed on a pedestal. The Borough is currently investigating the exact cost, however may temporarily install lights as a trial.

7. **Street Safety Meeting** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that Councilor A. Khalil requested that this item be placed on the agenda. Councilor A. Khalil asked Police Chief A. DiValentino if he would participate or host events to help educate children in bike and pedestrian safety. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that he would gladly participate in such events and will review schedules to begin the planning stages of these events.
8. **Permit Parking on the 100 block of Cedar Street** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that the residents have submitted petitions and the police received the conditions. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that there are 17 driveways along Cedar Street and the apartment building by Summit Avenue has a rear parking lot. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department ran tags along the 100 block of Cedar Street and most of the tags seemed to be owned by residents of that block. Councilor K. Farrell noted that she believes that there is an inconvenience however it is not a hardship on residents. Councilor A. Khalil wanted to move this item forward to full Council, however after a vote a majority voted against this item moving forward to full Council.
9. **Permit Parking on the 100 block of Greenwood Avenue** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that the residents have voiced concerns of Greenwood/Florence Avenue being overburdened by SEPTA parkers and would like to begin the process for permit parking to be considered. Administration has begun communications with Greenwood Terrace ownership on petition requirements.

## Old Business

1. **Jenkintown Police Department Sergeant Exam/Promotion** – Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department presented the request, which was approved during the 2019 budget season. Police Chief A. DiValentino noted that the Police Department believes that the move is prudent. Councilor J. Lugar noted that she is not prepared to discuss it at this moment and will place it on the agenda
2. **Parking Meters along the 100 block of West Avenue** – Councilor J. Lugar highlighted that there are ten (10) parking spots along West Avenue that could be metered. The Borough advertised an ordinance to place parking meters along the 100 block of West Avenue, which will go before Council on October 23rd for discussion of approval.
3. **2017 CFA Multi-modal Grant: Washington Lane & Greenwood Avenue** – Councilor J. Lugar highlighted that the Borough has been notified that Abington Township has begun discussing design and costs. A coordination meeting is being arranged. As background, the Borough has signed to accept the grant funding that was awarded through the multi-municipal application filed jointly with Abington Township. The award is for \$1,000,000 to fund the improvement to the intersection of Washington Lane and Greenwood Avenue and includes new traffic controls, HC Accessible curb cuts, storm water inlets/piping, sidewalk and curb.
4. **No Left Turn Signage at Runnymede & Walnut** – Councilor J. Lugar noted that there are no new updates. At the August Council meeting, Borough Council approved the filing of the TE-160 with PennDOT for approval to amend the traffic control device permit, which will relocate No Left Turn Signage locations at this intersection.

5. **2019 Purchase of Fire Apparatus Vehicle** – Councilor J. Lugar highlighted that a cost being finalized. Financing proposal from US Ban Corp in the amount of \$300,000 was approved by council and is being processed by the Borough Administration to continue moving the purchase process forward.
  
6. **Fire Department Training – Update** - Councilor J. Lugar noted that the training records have been submitted and will be discussed more at the Fire Commission meeting.

Councilor A. Khalil wanted Borough Manager G. Locke to review the idling grant. Borough Manager G. Locke noted that he will look into it and report back to the committee.

**Adjournment:** On motion of Chairperson J. Lugar, seconded by President D. Pancoe, the motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.