

Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting

Public Health & Safety Committee Members: Commissioner and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting, Commissioner R. Samuel Valenza, Commissioner Nicolas O. Scull, S. Michael Murphy, Chief of Police

- I. **Call to order:** Commissioner and Chair Whiting called the meeting to order following the conclusion of the Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting at 7:27 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Chair Whiting, Commissioners Valenza and Scull, and Lieutenant Mark Drakely. Absent: S. Michael Murphy, Chief of Police. Also present: David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes - May 29, 2018:** The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Report: Lieutenant Drakely provided the following updates in the absence of Chief Murphy:
 - Probationary Officer Layla Cruz successfully completed her FTO program and transitioned to her assigned Squad.
 - Consortium Police Test was administered on May 16, 2018 and the Physical Tests were held on June 2, 2018.
 - Officers attended various training courses throughout the area that included Sobriety Checkpoint, Montgomery County Drug Task Force training, J-Net Facial Recognition, Intelligence Gathering and Anti-Terrorism training.
 - A departmental training evolution was conducted on Building Searches utilizing the Township-owned properties on Center Avenue involving Police K-9 and tactics.
 - A permanent prescription drug drop box is located in the Police Department lobby and is accessible 24 hours a day.
 - Commissioner Valenza reminded the public to be aware of their surroundings and report all suspicious issues by dialing directly to 911, where calls get dispatched to the appropriate responders.
 - B. Department of Emergency Services - Nothing additional to report.
 - C. Second Alarmers' Association and Rescue Squad: Ken Davidson, Assistant Chief, reviewed the report's statistics and provided the following updates:
 - 2018-19 fundraiser is ongoing and can be accessed on their website. A mail campaign is being sent out by the second week of June.
 - SAR's hosted a community open house on May 25, 2018, for Emergency Medical Services.
 - On June 6, 2018, a press conference was held at the Capital for House Bill 699 in support of increasing Medicaid reimbursement for emergency services. SARs is appreciative of this important Bill.
 - Senate Bill 1003 was approved on June 6, 2018, that requires insurance companies to pay for emergency responses and treatments when transport does not occur.

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V. **Old Business:**

A. Courtesy Tickets:

- Lieutenant Drakely stated that the Solicitor's Office is working on the process and an update will be provided at a future meeting of the Public Health & Safety Committee.

B. Compliance with Parking Ordinance - Nothing to report.

VI. **New Business:**

A. Proposed purchase of Fire Truck to replace 1993 Ladder Truck:

- John Fugelo, Captain/Emergency Services; Fire Marshal, described details of the proposed new fire truck.
- The Committee moved for action at the July 9, 2018 Regular Meeting, the purchase of Pierce Ascendant 107' Quint Ladder Truck to be financed by funds from the General Obligation Bond Issue; A loan of up to \$300,000 from the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (interest rate of 2%); and, fund balance maintained in the Escrow Fund. Estimated cost of the truck is \$1,000,000.
 - Brandon Lee, Chief of Willow Grove Fire Company, commented that in the best interest of the Township resources and to serve the community, he believes that the configuration of the truck technologically falls short. He suggested that the Committee further research a vehicle that would last for 20+ years.

VII. **Other Items** - Nothing to report.

VIII. **Visitor Comments** - Nothing to report

IX. **Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Whiting thanked and extended appreciation to all those who serve to keep the community safe. He also reminded residents to avoid theft in their cars by locking them and, lastly, reminded residents to not leave children unattended in the back seats of hot cars during the summer months.

X. **Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Kathleen Kristire.