

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, Andrew J. Block, Chief of Police, John Fugelo, Captain/Emergency Services/Fire Marshall, Kenneth E. Davidson, Assistant Chief of Operations & Administration at Second Alarmer's Rescue Squad

- I. **Call to order:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting called the meeting to order following adjournment of the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting, Commissioners Valenza and Scull, Chief Block, Captain Fugelo, Chief Davidson, Fire Chief Chuck Jones, Jr. Also present were Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - February 22, 2021 - The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Reports:
 - Chief Block reviewed all statistics, trainings, activities and public reminders.
 - Chief Block stated that he is working with Sharia Wallace, business owner, on the Juneteenth Event and Commissioner Valenza asked for an advertisement to post on the Township website.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on COVID vaccinations and testing of the Department, and Chief Block replied that 80% have been vaccinated and testing is not mandatory.
 - Commissioner Spearing stated that the Township must recognize the concerns of those employees who decline the vaccine.
 - Commissioners McFatrige and Whiting commended Chief Block for facilitating vaccination appointments for employees of the Public Works and Police Departments.
 - B. Department of Emergency Services:
 - Captain Fugelo reviewed all statistics, trainings and activities.
 - C. Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad:
 - Captain Davidson reviewed all statistics, trainings and activities.
 - Neighbors were commended for shoveling a pathway during a winter storm around a house for first responders who were administering to a medical emergency on February 22, 2021.
 - Briefly discussed legislative Title 53 and will provide updates on its progress throughout this year.
 - The annual fund drive will begin on April 1, 2021 and Commissioner Valenza asked for an advertisement to be posted to the Township website.
 - D. Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company:
 - Chief Jones discussed kitchen safety regarding incidents of grease fires.
 - New members are needed and interested individuals can learn more by sending an email to: becomeamember@wgdfc.org, or call at 215-659-7633.
- V. **Old Business** - Nothing to report.

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VI. New Business:

A. Emergency Operation Plan – Review and Recommend Action by the Board of Commissioners:

- Commissioner Valenza motioned, seconded by Commissioner Scull and the Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at their April 5, 2021 Regular Meeting.

VII. Other Items:

A. COVID-19 Update:

- Mr. Candland stated that there have been 1,697 positive cases in the Township with a total of 48 deaths since the beginning of the pandemic. Montgomery County has had a total of 110,075 partial vaccinations and 67,961 full vaccinations, as of March 10, 2021.
- Mr. Candland stated that a vaccination site is planned to open at the former PetCo store in Willow Grove.
- Commissioner Whiting urged residents to partake in getting vaccinated, continue to wear masks and be safe.

B. Skeet Shooting at Huntingdon Valley Country Club:

- Mr. Kilkenny explained that enforcing any Township regulations would preempt the State law. The resident should contact their State representative.
- The Committee agreed to refrain from any action on this item.

VIII. Visitor Comments - Nothing to report.

IX. Commissioner Comments - Nothing to report.

X. Adjournment: There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.