

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, Andy 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. Absent: Captain Fugelo, Chief Davidson, Fire Chief Chuck Jones, Jr. Also present were Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, and Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** - November 23, 2020 - 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 highlights from the report:
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on the status of freight trains blowing horns at night. Chief Block stated he contacted SEPTA and is awaiting a response. He noted that the Township would be financially responsible and will provide more information on the cost.
 - B. Department of Emergency Services – Nothing to report.
 - C. Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad - Nothing to report.
 - D. Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company - Nothing to report.
- V. **Old Business:**
 - A. Consider recommending to the Board of Commissioners to take action at their Regular Meeting on February 1, 2021, the application and resolution required by PennDOT for the removal of "No Turn on Red" restriction on Davisville Road at Terwood Road:
 - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the February 1, 2021 Regular Meeting.
- VI. **New Business** - Nothing to report.
- VII. **Other Items:**
 - A. COVID-19 Update
 - Mr. Candland stated that there have been 1,420 positive cases with a total of 41 deaths in the Township since the beginning of the pandemic.
 - Chief Block stated that he has been in contact with the Dr. Alvin Wang, Chief Medical Officer at Montgomery County, regarding distribution of vaccines. Level 1A is for all health care providers in hospitals, anyone over the age of 65 years of age, and anyone between 16 and 65 years of age with medical conditions. Level 1B is for medical responders and the Township has sent personnel to a vaccination site in Lehigh Valley.

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Additional Level 1B vaccination sites are starting to open up at Abington Hospital and Lansdale Hospital, and Chief Block has been in contact on a daily basis with County officials on the availability of vaccinations. Level 1C is for municipal workers and vaccinations will probably take another two months before they are available. Chief Block recommends checking availability and signing up at local pharmacies for vaccination.

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

IX. **Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Whiting announced that he directed Captain Fugelo, Chief Davidson and Fire Chief Jones, Jr. to review their department reports at the February 22, 2021 meeting.
- Commissioner Spearing commended the Police Department for their involvement in educating the public on autism awareness.
- Commissioner Whiting stated that Commissioner Joseph Lavalley was a beloved husband, father and son to his family and will be truly missed in the Township.

X. **Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.