

## **Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting**

**Public Health & Safety Committee Members:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting, Commissioner Kip McFatrige, Commissioner Nicolas O. Scull; Andrew J. Block, Chief of Police; Edward Glassman, Fire Chief; Kenneth E. Davidson, Assistant Chief Operations & Administration - 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 Finance & Administrative Committee Meeting.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting, Commissioner McFatrige and Commissioner Scull, Police Chief Block, Fire Chief Glassman, Deputy Chief Colton Marsh in the absence of Assistant Chief Davidson. Also present: Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor, Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – January 30, 2023 - The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Presentation**
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports – January 2023:**
  - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Reports: Chief Block discussed the following:
    - Statistics and details in his report.
    - Media outlets were notified this morning of a search for an armed robbery suspect driving a vehicle on York Road in the area of Cherry Street, who forced a victim to stop their vehicle and steal their cell phone.
    - Police Consortium Examination and physical agility test was held in January.
    - Due to an Officer's promotion to Sergeant, there is currently one new Officer vacancy in the Department. Interviews were conducted, background checks are in process, and a list of candidates will be presented to the Civil Service Commission in March for certification.
    - Food collections and educational presentations in the community were reviewed.
    - A letter was sent to Representative Nancy Guenst and Senator Maria Collett for their support of State legislation to amend the Crimes Code requiring appropriate identification of items obtained by scrap yards, which will help to combat the theft of catalytic converters.
    - Due to increased vehicle thefts, Kia and Hyundai manufacturers have proactively delivered free of charge “The Club Steering Wheel Locks” to the Police Department to provide owners who show appropriate identification.
    - Commissioner Spearing suggested that pawn shops be required to record any type of scrap.
    - Commissioner Prousi followed up about stop signs and speeding in his Ward. The Traffic Unit and Public Works crew members are installing reflective strips on stop signs and, weather permitting, will paint signs on roadways.

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- B. Department of Emergency Services – Chief Glassman discussed the following:
- Statistics and details in his report.
  - Retiring Firefighter, Andrew Gerth, will be recognized for his service by the Board of Commissioners at the April 3, 2023 Regular Meeting.
  - Background checks are currently being conducted on candidates.
  - The Township’s department managers completed a tabletop simulated tornado emergency training.
  - Safety tips in observance of Daylight Savings Time on March 12, 2023 to change clocks and batteries in smoke and fire alarms.
- C. Second Alarmer’s Association and Rescue Squad – Deputy Chief Colton Marsh reviewed the following:
- Statistics and details in his reports.
  - Current vacancies include: two full-time paramedic positions and three full-time ENT positions.
  - A growing concern on the use of xylazine, a veterinary medication and non-opioid sedative, which is non-responsive to Narcan and causes extremely painful skin wounds.
  - Anticipating the delivery of two newly purchased ambulances in the Spring.

V. **Old Business:**

- A. Feral Cats Update – Chief Block discussed the following:
- A resident, who was feeding the cats, was informed of the ordinance violation.
  - Contacted Forgotten Cats to discuss potential ways to control the population.
  - Commissioners Spearing, Prousi and McFatrige commented on locations of cat colonies, discussed solutions, contracting with a provider for a catch and release program, amending the ordinance and future budgeting.
  - The Committee recommends that contingent upon obtaining a contract that provides trapping, neutering/spading and release services, the Board of Commissioners approve a contract at the March 6, 2023 Regular Meeting.

VI. **New Business** – Nothing to report.

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

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

IX. **Commissioner Comments** – Nothing to report.

XI. **Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.