

Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting

Public Health & Safety Committee Members: Commissioner and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting, Commissioner Kip McFatridge, 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 McFatridge in the absence of Commissioner and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting called the meeting to order.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioners McFatridge and Scull. Absent: Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting. Police Chief Block, Fire Chief Glassman, Assistant Chief Davidson. Also present: Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor, Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – February 27, 2023 - The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Presentation** – Nothing to report.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports – February 2023:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Reports: Chief Block discussed the following:
 - Statistics and details in his report.
 - Seven members of the Police Department attended the written examination for the current open position of Sergeant. A certified oral examination took place on March 6, 2023 by the Civil Service Commission and a promotion list will be coordinated later this month.
 - Attended a viewing for fallen Temple Police Sergeant Chris Fitzgerald who was killed in the line of duty.
 - Police and Fire Departments escorted a marine veteran on February 24, 2023 in honor of his 100th birthday to the VFW on Moreland Road.
 - The Command Staff and Community Representative administered an interview panel for a total of 15 police candidates between February 6-10, 2023. An eligibility list was provided to the Civil Service Commission for certification in the process to fill one vacancy by April in the Police Department.
 - The first Traffic Forum is being held tonight in the Finance Conference Room between 6-8 p.m.. It will be offered on a monthly basis to individuals interested in discussing Township traffic issues. More information will be announced and to attend, contact the Traffic Unit.
 - The first Citizens Police Academy is being planned and will be held between mid-April through the end of May. The public is invited to the six-week program, which meets one night per week. Classes are theme-based and informative with an open discussion. Program dates will be announced on the Crime Watch and Township websites.
 - Thank you messages from citizens in crisis situations who received urgent assistance from the Police and Emergency Services.
 - A resident of Ward 2 expressed gratitude to the Police and Emergency personnel for their service and commended the efforts to provide the public with training programs and forums on pertinent police topics.
 - Commissioner Scull shared an email request from Patty Marks to inform Police about

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speeding on Moreland Road.

- Chief Block directed the Traffic Unit to perform a study on Moreland Road and will report back at the April 17, 2023 Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting.

B. Department of Emergency Services – Chief Glassman discussed the following:

- Statistics and details in his report.
- Firefighter Andy Gerth retired on Friday, March 17th after 25-1/2 years of service and will be recognized at the April 3, 2023 Regular Meeting.
- Rescue personnel assisted Second Alarmers in a CPR save at Millers Ale House.
- Background checks are completed, interviews will be conducted on March 23rd, and selection of a candidate will be finalized to fill the firefighter position.
- Community-oriented events were attended, service training for 38 personnel was completed.
- A training with the Police Department at the Fire Station on the topic of forced entry, was a unique opportunity to network and communicate with public officials.
- Safety tips on e-bike lithium batteries:
 - Explosive fires can erupt;
 - Only use chargers that comply with the manufacturer, are UL approved and tested;
 - Be cautious of the outlet where batteries are plugged-in and do not leave them unsupervised.

C. Second Alarmer’s Association and Rescue Squad – Deputy Chief Colton Marsh reviewed the following:

- Statistics and details in his reports.
- EMS was not included in Governor Josh Shapiro’s proposal during the March 7th Pennsylvania budget speech to give a \$2,500 tax credit to new police officers, nurses and teachers as an incentive recognizing shortages in their respective fields. Working on contact with local officials and state representatives to endorse EMS in the proposal.
- March 28th is the Second Alarmer’s 85th Anniversary. Posts, pictures and tidbits will be posted to social media sites.

V. **Old Business** – Nothing to report.

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

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

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

IX. **Commissioner Comments:**

- Commissioner Spearing inquired about the status of partnering with neighboring municipalities on a grant application submission to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development (DCED) to fund EMS. Mr. Candland will follow up with municipal managers to participate in the County study that effects long term plans and funding.
- Commissioner McFatridge commended the implementation of the Traffic Forum and Citizens Police Academy programs.

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

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Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.