

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 Kip McFatrige in the absence of Commissioner and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting called the meeting to order.

- II. **Roll Call: Absent:** Commissioners McFatrige and Scull. Absent: Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting. Also present: Police Chief Block, Fire Chief Glassman, Assistant Chief Davidson, Randall K. Schaible, Assistant Township Manager/Director of Finance in the absence of Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.

- III. **Approval of Minutes** – April 17, 2023 - The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

- IV. **Presentation** – Nothing to report.

- V. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports – April 2023:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Reports: Chief Block discussed the following:
 - Statistics and details in his report.
 - The annual report from Montgomery County Pretrial Services revealed that incidents and crime rates had risen between February 2022 through year-end with 232 arraignments. Out of 56 municipalities with police departments, Upper Moreland Police were the seventh busiest (six additional municipalities are covered by the State Police).
 - Commissioner McFatrige stated that there are in-house costs for staffing as well as time spent on arraignments and transports to the County.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented about the Township’s homeless, shared that he and Commissioners Lockard and Scull attended an informational session given by St. Vincent DePaul Association and learned that “Your Way Home” is shut down. He requested to continue follow up on the organization and additional resources for the homeless.
 - Commissioner Spearing applauded the challenging work of law enforcement departments, who are conducting gun dealer inspections in Pennsylvania.
 - B. Department of Emergency Services – Chief Glassman discussed the following:
 - Statistics and details in his report.
 - Commissioner McFatrige commended the Fire Department and Police Department for their assistance at the scene of a motorcycle accident on York Road, while awaiting the arrival of Second Alarmers, who were tied up at the hospital. The Fire and Police response time was critical in saving the victim’s life.
 - A fire safety tip reminder is not to use gasoline as an accelerator on barbeque fire pits. Be cautious and use paper or kindling when lighting a fire.

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- C. Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad – Assistant Chief Davidson reviewed the following:
- Statistics and details in his reports.
 - There are currently open positions for one full-time paramedic position and two or three Emergency Medical Technicians.
 - Second Alarmer's Open House will be held at the Willow Grove Fire Station on Thursday evening, May 25th, from 5 to 8 p.m.
 - Commissioner McFtridge commended the Second Alarmers for their assistance with the motorcycle accident on York Road.

VI. **Old Business:**

- A. Invoicing of spay/neuter procedure for feral cats:
- Chief Block reported that two cats were caught and then taken to Forgotten Cats to be spayed and neutered for a cost of \$150.
 - The Committee agreed that all future invoices be approved for payment as part of the "Current Bills Paid" agenda item at the Finance & Administrative Committee Meeting.

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

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

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

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

XI. **Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.