

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, S. Michael Murphy, Chief of Police, John Fugelo, Captain/Emergency Services/Fire Marshall, Lee Perlmutter, Chief of Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company, Kenneth E. Davidson, Assistant Chief of Operations & Administration at Second Alarmer's Rescue Squad

- I. **Call to order:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting called the meeting to order following adjournment of the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting and Commissioners Valenza and Scull. Also present: Lieutenant Timothy Troxel in the absence of Chief Murphy, Captain Fugelo, Chief Perlmutter, Chief Jonathan Klenk in the absence of Assistant Chief Davidson, David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Jennifer Prior, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes - June 17, 2019:** The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports - June 2019:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Report: Lieutenant Troxel discussed the following items:
 - Background investigations are being conducted on eligible applicants for hiring new police officers. A list of three qualified candidates will be presented at the August 14, 2019 Civil Service Commission meeting.
 - Detective Maureen Kund, a 35-year employee of the Township, will retire on August 5, 2019.
 - Officers attended less lethal instructor training, professional report writing training, National Fire & Police Association Fire Investigator Certification training, and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement training.
 - A Crime Watch software application is being pursued, which includes mobile access for the community.
 - The public is reminded to be vigilant for fraudulent activity on their bank and credit card statements and to be aware of scam phone calls.
 - A prescription drug drop box located in the Police lobby is accessible 24 hours a day. Liquid prescriptions are not accepted due to leakage.
 - Statistics were reviewed on service calls, traffic stops, arrests and Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) inspections.
 - Commissioner Whiting requested that monthly statistics be recorded with a breakdown of A.M. and P.M. incidents. Lieutenant Troxel stated that additional information will be included in the report for future Committee meetings.
 - Commissioner Whiting inquired on the status of the Police Department Accreditation. Lieutenant Troxel stated that a consultant is being considered for preparing the PD's first accreditation. Once the PD building renovation is completed, Chief Murphy will pursue the accreditation application and review the budget to hire a consultant.
 - Commissioner Spearing inquired on the schedule for Consortium testing. Lieutenant Troxel stated that it is an annual test and that this is a new list of candidates beginning the background check process.

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- Commissioner Spearing inquired on the status of the safe school initiative. Lieutenant Troxel stated that the School District is being proactive. Security systems were installed that forces visitors to identify themselves in the vestibule area; colored lanyards will be worn by students, teachers and visitors; trainings on tactics, procedures and mini drills were given to staff and police. Active shooter presentations will be presented each year to the high school students. There is a Parent Advisory Committee that reviews concerns with the School District.
- B. Department of Emergency Services:
- Commissioner Valenza inquired on the report and Captain Fugelo clarified statistics and discussed staffing issues.
 - Commissioner Whiting suggested meeting with the Committee in September to further discuss staffing issues.
 - Commissioner Spearing suggested that a budget be proposed to educate the public and create awareness about the Fire Company's services and the need to fill fire fighter positions.
- C. Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad - Chief Klenk reviewed statistics and provided the following updates:
- The fund drive is now in progress and mailings were distributed. Residents can also go to www.sars.org and subscribe to a membership.
 - Residents are encouraged to contact local representatives in support of proposed House Bill 1347 that was referred to the Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee, which is a direct pay legislation that will have a positive and significant effect on EMS funding by facilitating the collection of insurance payments for patient services.
 - Montgomery County Ambulatory Association has created videos to recruit EMS providers to the region, which include agencies that are similar to Second Alarmers. The project was funded by the Pennsylvania Emergency Medical Services Operating Funds.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented that the public should be made aware to check the expiration date on Narcan products and suggested that a recycle program be created for outdated products.
- D. Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company: Chief Perlmutter announced the monthly safety tip related to roadway flooding and drowning:
- Do not drive through or walk near flooded roadways;
 - Do not drive around road barriers - it is illegal;
 - 12 inches of rushing water can carry a car away;
 - 2 feet of rushing water can carry any type of vehicle away;
 - 6 inches of rushing water can topple an adult;
 - Do not return home after a flood until advised by authorities;
 - Avoid standing in water which could be electrically charged from underground or a downed powerline;
 - Never go into a flooded basement unless the power has been turned off;
 - Avoid receding floodwaters - they may contain debris;
 - Call the Police or Fire Company by dialing 911 for any issues.
 - Commissioner Whiting inquired on the status of the new fire truck. Captain Fugelo stated that the truck was going to be parked outside tonight, but was it was canceled due to this evening's weather. Anyone can visit the Fire Station between the hours of 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to view the new truck.

- 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 McFatrige stated that he stopped at the Fire Station and congratulated them on their new fire truck.
 - Commissioner Whiting stated that the August Committee meeting has been canceled.
- X. **Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Kathleen Kristire.