

## **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: Chief Murphy, Captain Fugelo, Chief Perlmutter, Assistant Chief Davidson, David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Sean Kilkenny, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes - July 22, 2019:** The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports - August and September 2019:**
  - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Report: Chief Murphy discussed the following items:
    - Civil Service Commission received a list of three qualified candidates at the August CSC meeting and their names were forwarded to the Board of Commissioners for final interviews and consideration for appointment.
    - Police Officer Mark E. Bouldin started
    - Detective Maureen Kund, a 35-year employee of the Township, retired on August 5, 2019 and a reception was held by the Upper Moreland Police Benevolent Association at the Willow Grove Fire Company hall. She will be missed by everyone at the Township.
    - Officers attended Oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray and handcuffing training, Narcotics training related to hotels and parcel freight carriers, Montgomery County Emergency Services in crisis intervention training, and sobriety checkpoints training.
    - Detectives provided tremendous assistance at the plane crash in August and worked closely with the County Forensics team and the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) on the investigation. Detectives responded and assisted the HAZMAT team with stabilizing a toxic chemical suicide scene. Detectives assisted the Fire Marshal with two fire investigations.
    - A Crime Watch website is being on-boarded and the app will be made publicly available and free to residents in approximately a month.
    - 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.
    - The next Drug Enforcement Association "Drug Take Back Day" will be held on October 26, 2019.
    - Statistics were reviewed on service calls, traffic stops, arrests and Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) inspections.

- B. Department of Emergency Services - Captain Fugelo reviewed items on the report.
  - Four members of the Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company are attending Fire Officer 1 Certification Classes.
- C. Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad - Assistant Chief Davidson reviewed statistics and provided the following updates:
  - House Bill 1347, a direct pay legislation that significantly effects EMS funding by facilitating the collection of insurance payments for patient services, was moved forward to the next phase by a vote on September 18, 2019. Representatives Thomas Murt and Ben Sanchez continue to provide their support for the Bill.
  - Medicare ET3 Model pilot program application deadline has been extended to October 6, 2019. Montgomery County will review funding a Phase II program for dispatch enhancements and diversion options at the 911 Center.
  - Commissioner Valenza inquired on the status of the police radios. Chief Murphy stated that Motorola is working to resolve problems and Montgomery County is negotiating with Motorola to provide extended warranties and an inventory of parts.
- D. Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company: Chief Perlmutter announced the monthly safety tip related to Fire Prevention Week, October 5-12, 2019:
  - Install smoke detectors in the house
  - Test smoke detectors once a year
  - Smoke detectors are available at the Firehouse to anyone who cannot afford them.
  - Know the sound of a smoke alarm, especially children.
  - Have a home fire escape plan; leave the premises and do not go back into the building.
  - The Fire Company will submit an application for the Office of State Fire Commissioner Grant in the amount of \$15,000.
  - The Third District will offer a seminar on leadership and tactics on November 2, 2019 to career staff and volunteers.
  - The public is invited to attend the Annual Open House and Fire Prevention Event on October 10, 2019, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, at The Marketplace Shopping Center, 4355 Davisville Road. At 8:00 pm a meeting will be held in the Firehouse for anyone interest in becoming a member of the Fire Company.

V. **Old Business** - nothing to report.

VI. **New Business:**

- A. Request to establish Fire Zones and erect "No Parking in Fire Zones" signs by resolution, at the following locations (attachments):
  - Exhibit A - Kimmel Cancer Center, 3941 Commerce Avenue
  - Exhibit B – Urban Air, 1150 Easton Road
  - Exhibit C – Station at Willow Grove, 91 N. York Road
  - Exhibit D – YMCA, 3300 Davisville Road
  - Exhibit E – Willow Pointe Apartments, 2405 Maryland Road
  - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at their Regular Meeting on October 7, 2019, the request to establish Fire Zones and erect "No Parking in Fire Zone" signs at the locations above.

VII. **Other Items** - nothing to report.

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

IX. **Commissioner Comments** - nothing to report.

X. **Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Kathleen Kristire.