

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 Alarmers' Rescue Squad

- I. **Call to order:** Commissioner Scull called the meeting to order in the absence of Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting following adjournment of the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioners Valenza and Scull. Absent: Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting, Chief Perlmutter. Also present: Chief Murphy, Captain Fugelo, Chief Jon Klenk in the absence of Assistant Chief Davidson, David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes - October 21, 2019:** The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports - October 2019:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Report: Chief Murphy discussed the following items:
 - Police Officer Mark E. Bouldin continues with field training, has transitioned to night work and is progressing well.
 - Officers continue to participate in the "No Shave November" charitable event to raise funds to benefit prostate cancer research. The event ends on November 30, 2019.
 - Officers attended a drone piloting class, child abuse care training, a conference of the National Internal Affairs Investigators, active shooter instructor training, social media and legal updates, and the SWAT team trained at Fort Indiantown Gap.
 - Sergeant Jim Kelly was given a Letter of Commendation for an outstanding job investigating a false report against a teacher in the School District.
 - The Crime Watch website continues with training of staff and building an information platform.
 - The public is reminded to be vigilant for fraudulent activity on their bank and credit card accounts 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 Drug Enforcement Association "Drug Take Back Day" held on October 26, 2019 was a successful event.
 - Statistics were reviewed on service calls, traffic stops, arrests and Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) inspections.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired on Mission Kids. Chief Murphy explained that it is a child advocacy center founded by former District Attorney Risa Vetri Ferman that serves as a child and young adult-friendly facility where victims of abuse are forensically interviewed and counseled by a professional team of compassionate individuals.
 - Commissioner Valenza inquired on the status of body cameras. Chief Murphy stated that the camera system's server is being installed by Watchguard this week and vehicle and other equipment installs are scheduled for the beginning of December. Officers

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will test the system, provide feedback and a full rollout is planned for January 2020.

- B. Department of Emergency Services - Captain Fugelo reviewed items on the report.
- An application was submitted for a State grant in the amount of \$14,000 to fund the purchase of drones, with no match required by the Township. Captain Fugelo and Chris Strange, Emergency Coordinator, attended a class about the drones.
- C. Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad - Chief Jon Klenk reviewed statistics and provided the following updates:
- House Bill 1347 is still pending a vote; a direct pay law that significantly effects EMS funding by facilitating the collection of insurance payments for patient services. Residents are urged to contact Representative Thomas Murt in support of passing this important legislation.
 - House Bill 1862 was recently proposed and passed through the Committee fairly quickly. It is known as the "surprise medical bill/balance". The Bill would determine the payment rate and calculate reimbursement for providers based on median in-network rates for out-of-network care. Residents are advised to contact Representative Thomas Murt in support of amendments that would exempt EMS from this legislation.
 - For questions on the House Bills, anyone can contact Assistant Chief Ken Davidson for more information at 215-659-1885.
 - Skills Competency Verification Sessions were completed over the past three days by all EMTs and paramedics to review existing skills such as medication administration and stroke assessment. New training was provided on obstructive airway, active threat, and active shooter evolutions.
- D. Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company - nothing to report.
- 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 Scull stated that the Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting for December has been canceled.
- X. **Adjournment:** There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Kathleen Kristire.