

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, Chris Strange, Emergency Management Coordinator, in the absence of Captain Fugelo and Chief Perlmutter, Assistant Chief Davidson, David A. Dodies, Township Manager, and Jennifer Prior, Township Solicitor.

- III. **Approval of Minutes - May 28, 2019:** The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.

- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports - May 2019:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Report: Lieutenant Troxel discussed the following items:
 - Probationary Officers Czerviski and Hens are now on regular patrol.
 - K9 Officer Rems and his partner Max completed and obtained national certification in narcotics detection.
 - Officers attended several trainings which included proper use of the restraint chair and the annual state-required weapons qualification program.
 - Members of the Department attended a demonstration on Crime Watch and the new product is being considered for use by the Township.
 - A prescription drug drop box is located in the Police lobby and is accessible 24 hours a day. Liquid prescriptions are not accepted due to leakage and spills.
 - Statistics of service calls, traffic stops, arrests and Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) inspections were reviewed.
 - B. Department of Emergency Services: Mr. Strange discussed statistics and provided the following update:
 - Members of the Fire Department are attending a Final Inspection Acceptance of the new fire apparatus in Appleton, Wisconsin.
 - C. Second Alarmer's Association and Rescue Squad - Assistant Chief Davidson reviewed statistics and provided the following updates:
 - Mailings were distributed last week for the fund drive which is now in progress. Residents can also go to www.sars.org and subscribe.
 - A subcommittee of the Montgomery County Medical Advisory Committee met in May to discuss the Priority One Dispatch system's nature codes, GPS dispatch and specifically the overdose code, which is the most miscategorized call received in the program, and they are seeking recommendations to resolve issues.

**Upper Moreland Township
Committees Meetings
June 17, 2019 - Meeting Minutes**

- One Squad member attended the car seat safety inspection class. The SARS safety technician will be available to residents by appointment only, on a limited basis, until more members are certified. SARS participates in a voluntary pediatric certification program through Pennsylvania Emergency Management Services for Children Program, which has multiple levels.
- Active Shooter Training for new SARS members will be conducted on July 11, 2019 and another advanced training will be offered in the Fall.
- Residents are reminded to exercise safety measures and caution when using fireworks during the July 4th holiday.
 - Commissioner Valenza commented that since SARS has limited availability to offer car seat safety inspections, he will ask three individuals he knows that are certified to possibly volunteer their time. Assistant Chief Davidson stated that he will coordinate the participation of the other certified technicians with Commissioner Valenza.
 - Commissioner Spearing suggested having a car seat safety inspection demonstration available at the car show.
 - Commissioner Scull inquired if Police are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Assistant Chief Davidson stated that Police are trained, can initiate care, have automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in their car and can shock and defibrillate patients.

D. Willow Grove Volunteer Fire Company: Mr. Strange announced the monthly safety tip on propane and charcoal grills:

- Place grills at a minimum of three feet away from the house, deck railings, eaves, overhanging branches, pets and children;
- Keep grill clean and remove grease build up;
- Open lid to light the grill;
- Don't leave the house when grill is lit;
- Cool briquettes by placing in a metal container away from the house.
- Sue Worth La-Manna, a resident, stated that she lives in non-hydrant zone and inquired on the response to extinguish a fire on her street, which is located a half mile from the nearest hydrant. Mr. Strange stated that the County Dispatch Center has a procedure for that area that includes additional fire apparatus accounting for water and hose.
- it takes to connect the hoses, two previous major fires and suggested a cost evaluation be performed to install a stand pipe connected off of Brendan Circle, which would bring water into the Tower Road area. Mr. Strange will defer Ms. La-Manna's request to Captain Fugelo for a response.
- Ms. La-Manna inquired on the amount of water in a fire truck and how long it lasts. Mr. Strange stated that each truck carries 750 gallons of water and it generally lasts four to five minutes.

V. **Old Business:**

A. Update on Barrett Road - Parking and Speeding Issues:

- Lieutenant Troxel stated that parking signage issues have been resolved as a result of the traffic study and the ordinance. The Traffic Unit and Chief Murphy have investigated the neighborhood at various times of the day and determined that there are no excessive speed issues; however, the area is indicative of stop sign violations. A

**Upper Moreland Township
Committees Meetings
June 17, 2019 - Meeting Minutes**

routinely scheduled patrol will begin in the area. The Public Works Department will install additional 25 mph speed signs at regular intervals on streets that do not currently have them to help establish control over the situation.

VI. New Business:

A. Proposed Sale of Used Police Vehicle:

- Lieutenant Troxel stated that the vehicle will be donated at the cost of \$1 to the Montgomery County Tactical Response Training Center in Conshohocken, PA, where it will be used to conduct Emergency Vehicles Operations Courses.
 - Commissioner Valenza commented that the Township has previously donated police vehicles for the purpose of training to Montgomery County.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented on a National Alert flagging facial recognition software and inquired on the impact to the Township, the County, school security and body worn cameras. Lieutenant Troxel stated that the Township does not have facial recognition software and neither does the School District. It is a Federal level resource and it will not affect body worn cameras as long as facial recognition software is not applied to the videos.
 - Commissioner Spearing commented on radar legislation and if it will be included in the Township budget for 2020. Lieutenant Troxel stated that he will defer to Chief Murphy for response.

VII. Other Items - nothing to report.

VIII. Visitor Comments - nothing to report.

IX. Commissioner Comments:

- Commissioner McFatrige thanked the Police Department for their presence during the opening of swim season at the Upper Moreland Pool by managing increased traffic in the areas of Meyer Lane, the stop sign at Betz Road and through Meadow Lane.

X. Adjournment: There being no further business for this Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Kathleen Kristire.