

Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting

Public Health & Safety Committee Members: Commissioner and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting, Commissioner Kip McFatridge, 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 and Committee Chair Charles M. Whiting called the meeting to order following adjournment of the Finance & Administrative Committee Meeting.
- II. **Roll Call:** Commissioner and Committee Chair Whiting, Commissioners McFatridge and Scull, Police Chief Block, Assistant Chief Davidson, Fire Chief Glassman. Also present: Matthew H. Candland, Township Manager, Alex Baumler, Township Solicitor.
- III. **Approval of Minutes** – July 25, 2022 - The meeting minutes were unanimously approved as submitted.
- IV. **Acceptance and approval of the following monthly reports - August 2022:**
 - A. Police Department – Memorandum and Monthly Reports - Chief Block discussed the following:
 - Statistics from calls, crimes, offenses, arrests, investigations, citizen concerns and traffic.
 - Asked everyone to keep the officers injured in a bomb detonation accident during a training exercise at SCI Phoenix prison in their thoughts and prayers.
 - Community-oriented police activities and trainings were reviewed.
 - “Faith & Blue” event will be held October 8, 2022, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Willow Grove YMCA.
 - “DEA Take Back”, drug takeback event, will be held at the Police Department Lobby and the Giant Food Store at 315 York Road on October 29, 2022, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 - Sue Worth-LaManna inquired on the status of homeless services within the Township. Chief Block explained that solutions are difficult to find and the Department provides a bag of supplies, links up people with County services, and is working with contacts in Abington Township.
 - B. Department of Emergency Services – Chief Glassman discussed the following:
 - Statistics and details from emergency responses, incidents, inspections, investigations and fees, community events, detector installations, department trainings and thank you letters.
 - Fire Station Open House event will be held on October 13, 2022, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
 - The fire prevention tip to clean out chimneys, heating systems, dryers, and anything capable of building up carbon monoxide in the house. Check batteries on detectors as well.
 - Commissioner McFatridge commended the Fire Department’s response time of three minutes to recent fire emergencies.
 - C. Second Alarmer’s Association and Rescue Squad - Chief Davidson reviewed the following:
 - Statistics from emergency responses, opioid incidents, transportations, patients' outcomes, yearly comparisons, staffing, trainings, and donations.
 - Commissioner Whiting stated that a check to assist the Squad will be provided this

month and Chief Davidson thanked the Committee for their support.

V. **Old Business** – Nothing to report.

VI. **New Business:**

- A. Consider the adoption by resolution, the Civil Service Commission's adopted Resolution 2022-11, which expanded the pool of potential applicants for the position of Patrol Officer in the Police Department by removing the requirement that an applicant either be actively enrolled in the Police Academy or had graduated within two years:
- The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the October 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.
- B. Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency Office of Justice Programs – Grant Opportunities:
- Chief Block explained that the grant opportunity is part of ARPA funding and requires no match. Funding will provide updates to the records management system subscription, replace in-car and body-worn cameras that are out of service, reimburse the evidence technician processing fees, personnel costs for sworn officers and fund the development of policy, practices and training to benefit accreditation of the Department.
 - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the October 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

VII. **Other Items:**

- A. Designating Fire Zones at the following locations:
- Home Depot
 - Walmart
 - Lowes
 - Chief Glassman shared concerns received, explained safety issues and the need to designate fire zones.
 - The Committee recommends the Board of Commissioners take action at the October 3, 2022 Regular Meeting.

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Kristire.