

**POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 27, 2010**

The meeting of the Police and Public Safety Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Terry Mest. Committee members present in addition to Mr. Mest, were Patrick Maloney, Lori Carnes, and ex-officio member Frank Deery.

Also present were Council Members Keith Endy and Barry Christman; Mayor Marianne Deery; Patricia Spaide, Borough Manager, Police Chief Barry Leatherman, representatives of Building a Better Boyertown, Polly Heeney, Mary Lou Haddad, Charles Haddad, and Jake Lea; and a concerned citizen.

A motion to approve the minutes of the December 30, 2009 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Mest, seconded by Mrs. Carnes, and approved.

Police Chief's Report

Chief Leatherman reviewed with the members a report on the activities of the department during the month of January.

The Chief noted that due to the reduction in the police overtime and part-time budgets, it will be necessary to request all sponsors of special events to pay for the borough's police overtime and part-time expenses. The Chief advised the committee that he would prepare a cost estimate for each event. No objections to the recommendation were raised.

Mrs. Carnes noted that the Berks Mont Business Association would like to extend the hours of the Sidewalk Expo to 8:00 p.m. Mrs. Carnes was advised to inform the business association to submit the request in writing to either the Borough Manager or the Police Chief. It was noted that the organization annually submits a letter to the borough requesting authorization to hold the Sidewalk Expo.

The DROP Program was discussed briefly, and due to current economic conditions the committee recommended that it be removed from the agenda at this time. It was noted that the program would be revisited if economic conditions improve.

Unfinished Business

Emergency Services Task Force – To date the report from the DCED has not been received; however, it is anticipated that it will be submitted to the Borough shortly.

New Business

Building a Better Boyertown Design Committee-Parking East Philadelphia Avenue – Mrs. Heeney, Mrs. Haddad, and Mr. Lea representing the Design Committee of the BBB discussed with the committee options to be considered regarding East Philadelphia Avenue. Specifically discussed was the elimination of parking on one side of the street, and consideration of use of a different parking meter system that would require fewer parking meters.

Following discussion, the committee advised the BBB representatives that they do not favor the elimination of parking on one side of Philadelphia Avenue. The committee did agree to consider alternate parking meter options and recommended the BBB return to the committee with a specific proposal.

Octoberfest 2010 – The members reviewed a letter from Jeff Karver concerning the Octoberfest event sponsored by the BBB. They would like to hold the event on September 18th with a rain date of September 25th. In addition, Mr. Karver renewed his request to permit the consumption of beer and wine throughout the entire Inner Core Lot during the time the crafters and farmers are present. Mr. Karver is requesting that beer and wine be permitted to be consumed throughout the lot until 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m. beer and wine would only be permitted to be consumed in a specified area.

Following discussion, the committee members stated that they had no objection to allowing the consumption of beer and wine throughout the Inner Core Parking Lot until 4:00 p.m.

Other Comments

There being no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. was made by Mrs. Carnes and seconded by Mr. Maloney. The next meeting of the Police & Public Safety Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 24th, 2010 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Spaide
Borough Secretary