

**Police and Public Safety Committee Meeting
Minutes
December 1, 2021**

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

Also in attendance were Council members Keith Endy, Barry Christman and Gene Gabel; Marianne Deery, Mayor; Police Chief Barry Leatherman; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; and interested citizens.

Mr. Mest made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 27, 2021 meeting of the committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heller and approved.

Police Chiefs Report

Chief Leatherman advised the committee that the previously reported traffic problem at the high school has improved and is not currently posing a problem. The department will continue to monitor the situation. The Chief also reported that Officer Robert Wideman began work on November 22nd, and is training with Officer Morgan. The chief also advised that the department is participating in a food drive for the Boyertown Multi Service and Shop with A Cop.

Unfinished Business

Parking Enforcement Officer – Chief Leatherman advised that the part time employee who holds this position has been cleared to return to work for a maximum of 10 hours per week.

BAF&R – Discussion False Alarm Ordinance – Nothing new to report.

Parking on North & South Sides of E Philadelphia Avenue – Tabled to 2022

Sidewalks & Curbing East & West Philadelphia Avenues – Tabled to 2022

Burn Ordinance – The members reviewed a proposed ordinance to establish regulations and restrictions on open fires and open burning in the Borough. The Chief suggested the ordinance clarify who has the authority to issue citations for violation of the ordinance. Mrs. Loder will follow-up with the solicitor regarding that recommendation. Following discussion, the committee agreed to list this matter on the agenda of the December 6th meeting for authorization to advertise the ordinance for adoption at the January meeting of Borough Council.

New Business

Mr. Deery advised the committee that he and Colebrookdale Township Commissioner Todd Gamler recently met with elected officials from the Borough of Bechtelsville to discuss contract police services provided to the Borough by the Eastern Berks Regional Police Department. The Bechtelsville officials advised they are very pleased with the service they are receiving from the regional department and were complimentary of Chief Leatherman.

Public Comments

There being no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. was made by Mr. Mest and seconded by Mrs. Carnes. The next meeting of the Police and Public Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, December 29th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary