

**Police and Public Safety Committee Meeting
Minutes
February 2, 2022**

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

Also in attendance were Council member Keith Endy; Lori Carnes, Mayor; Police Chief Barry Leatherman; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Jillian Magee, Mainstreet Manager, and an interested citizen.

Mr. Neubauer made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2021 meeting of the committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cascino and approved.

Police Chiefs Report

Chief Leatherman reviewed the Police Activities Report for the month of December and noted that the January Activities Report will be completed shortly.

Unfinished Business

Parking Enforcement Officer – Mrs. Loder reviewed with the new members of the Committee the history of the parking enforcement officer. The committee was also advised that Borough Council included funds in the 2022 budget to hire a full time property maintenance code official/parking enforcement officer. The new hire would be responsible for the rental unit inspection program and enforcement of metered and time limit parking. Mrs. Loder advised that a job description has not yet been written and sought direction from the committee regarding the job description and pay rate. A lengthy discussion was held on the subject following which the committee agreed that a job description should be prepared for review by the committee. The suggested hourly pay rate is \$17.00 - \$20.00.

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

Parking on North & South Sides of E Philadelphia Avenue, Sidewalks & Curbing East & West Philadelphia Avenues – Mrs. Loder advised the committee that discussion of the above noted topics will be referred to the February 7th meeting of Borough Council for consideration by full Council.

New Business

American Legion Car Show September 11, 2022 Request to Close Walker Drive 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – Mrs. Loder reviewed with the members a request from Mark Malizzi, Boyertown American Legion Post 0471, to close Walker Drive on September 11th, 2022 between

the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a Car Show. BAF&R personnel will provide traffic control services. This will be the second year for this car show. Mr. Neubauer is a resident of Walker Drive and stated that last year's event was very well organized and the event organizers were very cooperative and helpful in assisting Walker Drive residents with access to their driveways during the event. Following discussion, the committee agreed to recommend that Borough Council approve this request. This matter will be listed on the agenda of the February 7th meeting of Borough Council.

Request for Handicap Parking Space for Commercial Establishment submitted by Patricia Petitti 500 E Philadelphia Avenue – Ms. Petitti addressed the committee concerning a request for a handicap parking space on South Monroe Street adjacent to her accounting business office, which is located at 500 E Philadelphia Avenue. Ms. Petitti stated that she has numerous clients with disabilities and it is often difficult for them to find a parking space on South Monroe Street within close proximity to her business office. The committee reviewed the ordinance adopted by Council in 2013 pertaining to handicap parking spaces adjacent to commercial locations, and the Policy and Procedures approved by Borough Council to administer the ordinance. Mrs. Loder noted that the ordinance stipulates that the cost and expense for purchase and installation of the PennDOT approved handicap sign is to be paid by the person responsible for commercial signage for the commercial location requesting the handicap parking space. Mrs. Loder also noted that the ordinance states that designation of a handicap parking space under this ordinance shall be established by adoption of a resolution by Borough Council. Following discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Cascino, second by Mr. Heller, to recommend Borough Council grant Ms. Petitti's request for a handicap parking space on South Monroe Street.

Public Comments

Mr. Neubauer called for public comment and recognized Ms. Magee who addressed the committee with a request to close North Reading Avenue from 5th Street to Philadelphia Avenue, and South Reading Avenue from 3rd Street to Philadelphia Avenue, on May 21st, 2022 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for a new event entitled Boyertown Days. The event will feature casket races and various other activities. A lengthy discussion on the subject ensued in which the Police Chief and some committee members expressed concerns about closing a state road for another event, citing public inconvenience and traffic and pedestrian safety concerns. Committee members suggested holding the event on Walnut Street because Boyertown Casket Company was located on Walnut Street. Mr. Neubauer recommended using the Town Center Parking Lot and holding the Casket Race on Boyer Alley. Ms. Magee stated that the executive committee considered both of those locations; however, they prefer the Reading Avenue location. Following all discussion, the committee advised Ms. Magee that they will not approve the closure of Reading Avenue for the event and that she should advise the executive committee that they will permit the event to be held in the Town Center Parking Lot. Ms. Magee will inform the executive committee.

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There being no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. made by Mr. Cascino and seconded by Mr. Heller. The next meeting of the Police and Public Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary