

Police and Public Safety Committee Meeting

Minutes

February 28, 2024

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

Also in attendance were Councilman Keith Endy; Lori Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Police Chief Barry Leatherman and Krista Gross, Building a Better Boyertown.

Mr. Neubauer called for public comments on the agenda; no comments were forthcoming.

Mr. Neubauer made a motion, second by Mr. Heller, to approve the minutes of the January 31st, 2024 meeting of the committee. The motion was approved.

Police Chiefs Report

Chief Leatherman briefly reviewed department activities and advised the committee that the two new officers recently hired by the Regional Police Commission have begun work and are doing very well.

Unfinished Business

Green Light Go Grant – Qualification Based Selection of Engineering Firm – Mrs. Loder advised the committee that the deadline for receipt of the RFQ's for selection of an engineering firm based on qualifications is March 18th.

New Business

BaBB – 2024 Event Requests – The committee reviewed the 2024 event requests submitted by BaBB Event Coordinator Krista Gross. The event dates are as follows: Coming Out of Hibernation, Saturday, April 20th, rain date Sunday, April 21st; Chillin on Main Saturday, December 7th, rain date Sunday, December 8th. Event times are 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The request includes closure of East Philadelphia Avenue from Reading Avenue to Washington Street. In addition, BaBB is requesting the closure of South Chestnut Street from Philadelphia Avenue to Third Street, and the use of the first three rows of parking in the Town Center Parking Lot beginning at the one-hour parking area. Ms. Gross advised that the request to use the TC Parking Lot and South Chestnut Street is due to an increase in vendor interest in the event. Ms. Gross noted that in the past couple of years BaBB has had to turn vendors away due to lack of space. Ms. Gross stated that these events are fundraisers for BaBB as well as providing family fun activities for the community. Ms. Gross requested the street closure times to be set at 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The committee recommended the street closure time be reduced to 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Ms. Gross will consult with the Main Street Manager regarding this request and advise Mrs. Loder.

Police and Public Safety Committee Meeting
February 28, 2024
Page/2

BaBB is also requesting approval for the closure of the Town Center East Parking Lot for Oktoberfest 2024, which is slated to be held on Friday, September 13th and Saturday, September 14th, with a rain date of Sunday, September 15th in the case of inclement weather on Saturday. The event hours are Friday, September 13th 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.; Saturday September 14th 1:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Sunday rain date hours would be noon to 8:00 p.m. The parking lot closure is requested to begin at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, September 13th and continue through Sunday, September 15th at 10:00 p.m. If the rain date is not need, the lot would be reopened for public use by 9:00 a.m. Sunday.

BaBB also requests that hourly parking restrictions be lifted during the above noted events, both on the street and in the Town Center East and West Parking Lots.

Following review and discussion of the event requests, the committee agreed to recommend Borough Council approve the events as noted above.

Mayor Carnes advised the committee that Jim Boyer, EMS Chief, of the Boyertown Ambulance would like to make a presentation at Borough Council meeting on Monday, March 4th. Mr. Boyer will be placed on the agenda of the meeting.

There being no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 7:40 p.m. by Mr. Neubauer and seconded by Mr. Heller. The next meeting of the Police and Public Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 27th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary