Police and Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes June 30, 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 member Barry Christman; Police Chief Barry Leatherman; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Jillian Magee, Mainstreet Manager; Charles Haddad, Boyertown Rotary Club; Roger Lehmann, Boyertown Lions Club; Amy Muzopappa, Boyertown Ambulance; Chris Mackey, Boyertown Midget League Baseball; and interested citizens.

Mr. Mest made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2021 meeting of the committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heller and approved.

Police Chiefs Report

Chief Leatherman reviewed the Police Chiefs report submitted on June 3, 2021. Chief Leatherman also encouraged the committee to reach out to their state elected officials to support the recently passed senate bill providing authority for local police departments to use radar.

Chief Leatherman also discussed with the committee a number of recent incidents that the department handled including vandalism at the Boyertown Community Park, a stabbing in Colebrookdale Township, a suicidal individual in Bechtelsville, and a severely mentally disturbed individual in Boyertown.

Unfinished Business

East Second Street Traffic Calming – In follow-up to last month's discussion concerning speeding on East Second Street between Madison Street and Franklin Street, Mr. Hartenstine a resident of East Second Street, requested double lines be painted on the street as a traffic calming technique. The committee agreed; the street department staff will paint the lines when they do the annual crosswalk, stop block and line painting, which should be scheduled to be done within the next month or two. The EBRPD will also paint vascar lines on Second Street.

Parking Enforcement Officer – Mrs. Loder and Chief Leatherman advised the committee that Mr. Landes has not been cleared to return to work. His next doctor appointment is September. The individual who the committee approved to be hired as a substitute Parking Enforcement Officer decided not to accept the position.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

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Public Comments

Mr. Mest called for public comment and recognized Mr. Haddad who noted that a speeding citation cannot be issued unless the vehicle is traveling ten miles over the posted speed limit. Mr. Haddad suggested that perhaps the speed limit in the borough should be reduced to twenty miles per hour.

There being no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. was made by Mr. Mest and seconded by Mr. Heller. The next meeting of the Police and Public Safety Committee will be held on Wednesday, July 28th, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder Borough Secretary