

**Police and Public Safety Committee Meeting
Minutes
November 2, 2016**

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 Charles Heller, Lori Carnes, and ex-officio member Frank Deery.

Also in attendance were Council member Keith Endy; Marianne Deery, Mayor; Police Chief Barry Leatherman; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager, and concerned citizens.

Mr. Mest made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2016 meeting of the committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heller and approved by the members.

Police Chiefs Report

Chief Leatherman briefly reviewed with the committee a report on department activities and upcoming events. Chief Leatherman also noted receipt of request from BBB to close East Philadelphia Avenue between Reading Avenue and Chestnut Street on Saturday, December 3rd for the Chillin on Main Event. The event hours are 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; the road closure is 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This matter will be listed on the agenda of the November 7th meeting of Council for authorization for the Police Chief to notify PennDOT of the road closure.

Unfinished Business

Jill Vincent – Wellness Council of Boyertown 5K – Ms. Vincent reviewed with the committee a request from the Wellness Council of Boyertown to hold the Turkey Trot 5K Run on Thanksgiving Day, November 24th at 9:00 a.m. The run will begin in the Boyertown Community Park, and will proceed north on Madison Street to Second Street remaining in the Borough and returning to the Community Park. Ms. Vincent requested police assistance at the intersections of Philadelphia Avenue and Washington Street, and Philadelphia Avenue and Chestnut Street. Chief Leatherman noted that only one officer will be on duty on the holiday; and he can't guarantee that another officer will be willing to work overtime on the holiday.

A somewhat lengthy discussion was held concerning the route and the use of Philadelphia Avenue. Committee members expressed concern about participants running in the street on Philadelphia Avenue. The Committee recommended the participants be directed to the sidewalk. In addition, it was noted that the Wellness Council must get permission from Colebrookdale Township for the use of Madison Street from the Community Park to Second Street.

Following all discussion, the committee agreed to list this matter on the agenda of the November 7th meeting of Council.

New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

Public Comments

Mr. Mest called for public comment and recognized Mrs. Kim Axman, a resident of Highland Street. Several other residents of Highland Street were also in attendance; however, Mrs. Axman acted as the spokesperson for the group. Mrs. Axman explained to the committee the residents concern about high school students parking on Highland Street creating a safety concern for residents exiting their driveways, creating a narrowing of the street causing a disruption in the flow of traffic, and speeding concerns. The residents are requesting the Borough designate Highland Street as a residential parking area. In addition, Mrs. Axman asked if there was anyway the Borough could provide immediate relief.

Lengthy discussion was held on the matter and Chief Leatherman noted that there is a provision in the Code of Ordinances which authorizes Council to designate experimental parking regulations for a period of not more than 90 days. Discussion was also held on extending an experimental residential parking regulation to Third, Jefferson and Monroe Streets, because the expectation is that students will begin to park on those streets when Highland Street is posted two hour parking. Mr. Leister interjected into the conversation his opinion that the 100 and 200 blocks of North Washington Street should also be designated as a residential parking area.

Following all discussion, the committee agreed to list on the agenda of the November 7th meeting of Council a motion to impose a 90 day experimental two hour residential parking restriction on Highland Street from Madison to the Borough line; East Third Street from Madison Street to Franklin Street; Jefferson Street from Philadelphia Avenue to Third Street; Monroe Street from Philadelphia Avenue to Third Street; and North Washington Street from East Fourth Street to West Sixth Street.

The Chairman then recognized Mr. Clayton Leister who addressed the members concerning the number of garbage collectors in the Borough and his opinion that they should be licensed by the Borough; a faded "no parking" sign on Poplar Alley; and his opinion that all handicap parking signs should include a "penalty" sign.

There being no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 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, November 30, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary