

Police and Public Safety Committee Meeting
Minutes
March 29, 2017

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, and ex-officio member Frank Deery. Committee member Lori Carnes was absent.

Also in attendance were Council member Barry Christman and Keith Endy; Marianne Deery, Mayor; Police Chief Barry Leatherman; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Allen Steffy, Lynn Camella, Adrienne Blank, and Shannon Anthony, Building a Better Boyertown, and Jeremy Olsen, Sly Fox Track Club.

Mr. Mest made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2017 meeting of the committee. The motion was seconded by Mr. Heller and approved by the members present.

Police Chiefs Report

Chief Leatherman briefly reviewed with the committee a report on department activities and upcoming events. Chief Leatherman also advised the committee of a handicap parking request for 423 East Second Street. The request will be listed on the agenda of the April 3rd, meeting of Council.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to conduct.

New Business

The Chairman recognized Mr. Jeremy Olsen, of Sly Fox Track Club, who addressed the committee concerning a 5K Run to be held in conjunction with the Oktoberfest Event on Saturday, September 16th. The run is proposed to take place on Borough owned roadways; no state highways will be included in the race. The race will begin on Boyer Alley and continue east bound on Third Street to Chestnut Street to Second Street and continue onto the Boyertown Community Park and then return to Boyer Alley.

Discussion was held on the request and it was noted that the run is proposed as a “share the road” event. It was also noted that police assistance will likely be required at the start of the race as the runners enter onto East Second Street at Chestnut Street. The projected participation is one hundred to one hundred fifty participants. Further discussion was held on the event and the committee stressed that participants must be advised to run on the sidewalk and not the roadway. Some discussion was held concerning the number of 5K Run requests and concern about authorizing too many due to the safety concerns of a “share the road event.” The committee seemed to agree that limiting 5K Runs to those that are being held in conjunction with an existing event should be considered by the committee.

Following all discussion, the committee agreed to list the event on the agenda of the April 3rd meeting of Council, the start time of the event will be 10:00 a.m. and participants will be required to sign a document acknowledging that they must run on the public sidewalk.

TPD, Inc. Proposal Signal Study and Green Light Go Application – Mrs. Loder and Chief Leatherman advised the committee that they met with Chris Lincoln and Randy Waltermeyer of TPD, Inc. to discuss with them a left turn advance signal at the main intersection and the possibility of applying for a grant to fund signal improvements at the main intersection. Mr. Lincoln advised that the traffic counts taken during a 2015 traffic study were just shy of the count required by PennDOT; however, Mr. Lincoln noted that the count may be higher now with the closing of East Third Street. The discussion also involved applying for a grant to replace the signals with an upgraded signal system.

TPD's cost proposal to evaluate the traffic signal, specifically to determine the feasibility of a left turn advance phase and to prepare and submit a Green Light-Go grant application for upgrading and modernizing the traffic signal and equipment is \$5,900. Mrs. Loder and Chief Leatherman stated that the projected cost was expected to be \$2,000 to \$3,000, and both felt that a cost of \$5,900 was too high for consideration at this time. In the alternative they recommended reaching out to PennDOT to determine PennDOT's ability to assist with a traffic count and to obtain some insight into the grant application process. The committee agreed.

Public Comments

There being no further business to conduct a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 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, April 26th, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary