

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT – JUNE 12, 2023

Members: Buohl, Chairman; Richard, Vice Chairman; Ressler, Member; Barr, Alternate; McKim, Staff

Attendees: Committee: Buohl, Chairman; Richard, Vice Chairman; Ressler, Member; Barr, Alternate
Council: Musser, Martin, Zimmerman, Mowen
Staff: McKim; Harris
Guests: Chief Mike Kiefer, Chief Richard Gehman

The Public Safety Committee met on May 15, 2023, at 6:30 PM at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

Approval of Agenda:

Chief McKim provided confirmation of the following:

1. The meeting agenda was posted on the Borough's website and at Borough Hall no later than 24 hours in advance of the time of the meeting.
2. The meeting agenda included a listing of each matter of Borough business that will be or may be the subject of deliberation or official action at the meeting.
3. There were no changes made to the meeting agenda after it was posted.
4. The meeting agenda was made available to individuals in attendance at the meeting.

Committee Chair Buohl asked if there were any requests to add a matter of Borough business to the meeting agenda. Seeing none, Mr. Buohl asked for a motion to accept the meeting agenda as posted. Mr. Richard moved, and Mr. Ressler seconded to approve the meeting agenda as posted. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items:

None.

Discussion Items:

1. EMA April 2023 report - Written report only.
2. Building Code Discussion – Borough Manager Harris explained the 2021 International Property Maintenance Code updates and recommendations, including a quick-ticket option. The committee agreed the item should move forward in discussions.
3. Police Report – Chief McKim reviewed the April 2023 police report including Excellence in Policing and Areas of Concern.
4. 1st Quarter Budget Review – Chief McKim reviewed the 1st Quarter Budget report. Chairman Buohl inquired about the status of negotiations with Ephrata Township regarding the police services contract. Mayor Mowen explained there have been no additional meetings. Manager Harris explained that the borough is working on financial calculations. Ms. Martin inquired about the training range. Chief McKim reported that an agreement was not reached, and the project was no longer being pursued.

5. Church and Main Pedestrian Accidents – Chief McKim reviewed 7 years’ history of pedestrian accidents at Church and Main. There are similarities in the cases. The Highway Committee is also aware. Chairman Buohl requested that this item remain in discussion.

Old Business Items:

1. Fire Call Annual Comparison – Chief Gehman reported that Lincoln Fire Company responded to 43 calls in April. The written report for April and May will be sent to Ms. Fasnacht for the July Council. He also reported on a “clinical save” in April, where the Lincoln Fire Company was present. Chief Kiefer reported the 3rd “clinical save” of the year where Pioneer Fire Company was present.

Miscellaneous Items:

1. Internal Complaint Update – Chief McKim updated the committee on a complaint made by a resident in open council. No intentional misconduct is indicated thus far.
2. Hiring Process Update - Chief McKim updated the committee on the status of the current hiring process. The Committee has a special meeting scheduled for June 5, 2023, before the Work Session.
3. Homeless Activity – Chief McKim briefed the Committee on police events involving homeless citizens. Mayor Mowen provided information regarding changes in City Gate’s operating model. Additional options for park violations are being discussed with the local Judge.

Adjournment: 7:28 PM

Next Meeting: **Special Meeting Monday, June 5, 2023 - 6:30 PM**

Regular Meeting Monday, June 19, 2023 – 6:30 PM