



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

February 12, 2014

7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Durkin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

- **Committee members present:** Chairperson Durkin, Councilor Bunker, Councilor Conners, Councilor Farrell, and Councilor Soltysiak.
- **Committee members absent:** None.
- **Others present:** Councilor Mixon, Mayor Foley, Chief DiValentino, Manager Locke, Assistant Manager Bashore, Engineer Hughes, and Fire Chief Connolly.
- **Others absent:** Public Works Director Frank.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Mindy Bartscherer, Jenkintown United Methodist Church (328 Summit Ave.):** Ms. Bartscherer appeared before the Committee in order to discuss a proposed alteration to the traffic pattern on Summit Ave. between Walnut St. and Highland Ave. The proposal is to convert this section of Summit Ave. from two-way to one-way traffic on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Ms. Bartscherer stated that the Church's food cupboard has become successful and there is a parking issue with volunteers and patrons. Ms. Bartscherer noted that Summit Ave. is made one-way during Sunday services.

Chairperson Durkin noted concerns with the proposal, including that this area is a prime school zone, it is during the week, the on-going construction on the Greenwood Ave. Bridge, and possible confusion that could be caused due to the closures. Councilor Conners noted concerns over an emergency vehicle being able to pass through this portion of Summit Ave. Councilor Mixon noted that volunteers leave at 2:20 p.m. on Thursdays and asked if it could be reduced to 2:00 p.m. Ms. Bartscherer stated that it could and noted that the number of families utilizing the food cupboard has doubled.

Chief DiValentino asked if the food cupboard could be run over a four-hour period as opposed to a two-hour period. Ms. Bartscherer stated that it could. Chief DiValentino noted concern over shutting down a major roadway with the Greenwood Ave. Bridge out. Mayor Foley asked about the number of volunteers. Ms. Bartscherer stated that there were 17-24 volunteers. Mayor Foley asked if the volunteers could park in the municipal lots. Ms. Bartscherer stated

that this could be looked at. Councilor Farrell asked if it was possible for the Kiwanis Club to move their luncheon from Thursdays. Ms. Bartscherer stated that this could be discussed. Chairperson Durkin asked about the impact this may have on the ability for emergency vehicles to get through Summit Ave. Chief Connolly stated that the preference would be for earlier in the day and noted that emergency vehicles will get through. Councilor Farrell noted that making the road one-way during this time might be the best result. Councilor Mixon believes that the Borough should be accommodating if the Church can make a few adjustments to their proposal.

Chairperson Durkin requested that the Church see what re-organization could be done internally, primarily having volunteers park in the municipal lots and return at the March meeting. Ms. Bartscherer asked about the kind of data that would be helpful. Chairperson Durkin stated the number of cars, peak times, and any issues that are being encountered.

REPORTS

1. **Police Department:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
2. **Second Alarmers:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
3. **Pioneer Fire Company:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.
4. **Independent Fire Company:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.

NEW BUSINESS/ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. **Civil Service Commission – Sergeant Examination:** Chief DiValentino stated that a written exam was taken by five (5) officers and three (3) moved onto the oral exam portion of the testing process. Chief DiValentino recommended that Officer Albert Sulpizio be promoted to the position of Patrol Sergeant.

ACTION: On motion of Councilor Bunker, seconded by Councilor Conners, the motion recommending the promotion of Officer Albert Sulpizio to the position of Patrol Sergeant passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Fire Department Training Policy Update:** This matter was tabled to a future meeting.
2. **West Ave. – Line of Sight Issue:** Manager Locke stated that he met with the Borough Traffic Engineer and that the Public Works Department will install the new stripping when the weather allows for the work to occur.
3. **School Zone Lights – West Ave. & Walnut St. / Greenwood Ave.:** Manager Locke stated that the Borough has been altered to a few funding sources and that pricing has been provided by the Borough Engineer. Engineer Hughes stated that there is an alternative transportation funding grant that may be used towards this project.

4. **School District – Pick-up/Drop-off Issue:** Chief DiValentino stated that a police officer was stationed during pick-up/drop-off periods and that it has been going smooth. Councilor Farrell stated that she will follow-up with Dr. Wade regarding the next steps in addressing this issue.
5. **York Road and Greenwood Avenue Light Timing Project Progress Update:** Manager Locke stated that the Borough Traffic Engineer has completed the software portion of the project and they are working with PennDOT on implementing the changes.
6. **No Pedestrian Crossing Enforcement – Update:** Chief DiValentino stated that officers have noticed people attempting to cross at the intersection of York Rd. and Summit Ave. and that officers are guiding individuals to the crosswalk.

Adjournment: On motion of Chairperson Durkin, seconded by Councilor Bunker, the motion adjourning the meeting passed unanimously.