

March 7, 2012  
Curtis Hall

A regular meeting of the **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** was held tonight, Commissioner J. Andrew Sharkey, Chairman, presiding. Members present were Commissioners Hampton, McKeown, Norris, Portner, and Simon. Also present was Ex-Officio member Haywood. Staff present were Joseph Bagley, Wisler Pearlstine LLC; Patrick Duffy, newly appointed Director of Engineering, Zoning and Inspections; Bryan T. Havar, Assistant Township Manager; Kenneth Hellendall, EMS Director; David Lynch, retiring Director of Engineering, Zoning and Inspections; John J. Norris, Chief of Police; Kevin O'Brien, Deputy Chief of Police; Joseph O'Neill, Fire Marshal; Carmen Reitano, Assistant to the Township Engineer; Lt. John Weed; and David G. Kraynik, Township Manager. A Public Attendance List is attached.

Mr. Sharkey called the meeting to order.

1. Chief Norris reviewed the Police Activity/Community Policing Unit, Clearance and Juvenile Contact Reports for the month of January, 2012.

2. The Committee reviewed a proposed Ordinance to the Traffic Code that would add the following:

<b><u>ADD</u></b> –	CENTRAL AVENUE	STOP STREET at Laurel Avenue.
	JENKINTOWN ROAD	NO TRUCKS, except residential delivery, Church Road to Township Line Road.
	MARVIN ROAD	NO TRUCKS, except residential delivery, New Second Street to Jenkintown Road.
	THOMPSON ROAD	NO TRUCKS, except residential delivery, Church Road to Township Line Road.

Chief Norris reported that the banning of trucks on Jenkintown Road is due to the narrowness of said road.

3. Upon motion of Mr. Simon, and unanimously approved by the Committee, it was recommended to the Board of Commissioners the adoption of an Ordinance amending Chapter 285, thereof, entitled "Vehicles and Traffic" (see attached).

4. Upon motion of Mr. McKeown, and unanimously approved by the Committee, the Police Activity/Community Policing Unit, Clearance and Juvenile Contact Reports for the month of January, 2012, were accepted.

5. Mr. Sharkey asked for an update on the rebanding of police radios. Chief Norris responded that Nextel supplied radios to the county that were inadequate. The county and Nextel are renegotiating the rebanding of said radios, which is anticipated to take at least another couple of months. Approximately 500 radios are affected.

6. Upon motion of Mr. McKeown and unanimously approved by the Committee, the Report of the Fire Marshal for the month of February, 2012 was accepted.

7. Upon motion of Mr. Portner, and unanimously approved by the Committee, the Report of the EMS Director for the month of February, 2012 was accepted.

8. Under Report of the Township Manager: There was a discussion of Township Ordinance No. 2206-10 that requires the reporting of lost or stolen firearms to the Police Department that could be affected by pending state legislation known as House Bill 1523. Said Bill would impose legal fees and cost exposure to municipalities that require reporting of lost or stolen handguns.

Mr. Bagley reviewed the legislation. He advised that if passed, it would be a threat to municipalities, and it is supported by the National Rifle Association ("NRA"). He reviewed the options for the Township including the timetable for rescinding the current ordinance. If the ordinance is not rescinded within a specific amount of time, organizations like the NRA could file lawsuits. It was his opinion that the NRA was currently preparing lawsuits in anticipation of

its passage. He recommended that the Township not leave itself vulnerable to a lawsuit and that Staff be authorized to publish a Legal Notice advising of the Township's intent to rescind the current Township ordinance if the legislation is passed.

Mr. Simon reported that he spoke to Max Nacheman, Executive Director of CeaseFirePA, who brought said legislation to his attention. It has been decided that this legislation is not a violation of the state's preemption statute and that said legislation will be more scrutinized once it reaches the State Senate. He recommended that the Township ordinance remain for now.

Mr. Sharkey asked that Mr. Nacheman be invited to attend the Public Works Committee meeting on March 14, 2012 to further discuss this legislation.

There was a public comment:

Thomas McHugh, 127 Hewett Road, stated he was a member of the NRA. He opposed the pending legislation and felt the Township should also oppose it.

Steven Bell did not support rescinding the Township's current ordinance but rather 'adjusting' it, i.e. he suggested a Legal Notice advertising that the Township will keep its current ordinance if the pending legislation is not passed but will rescind it if the legislation is passed.

Mr. Bagley advised that Mr. Bell's suggested Legal Notice would be inconsistent with municipal government regulations.

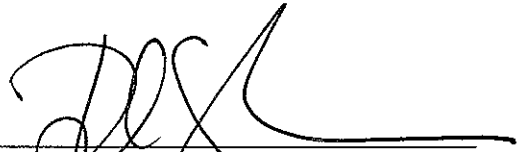
9. Upon motion of Mr. Sharkey, the Committee unanimously authorized that Mr. Bagley send a letter urging the Pennsylvania General Assembly, Senate and Governor Tom Corbett to reject House Bill No. 1523 which could impose heavy financial penalties on municipalities that adopt or enforce reasonable regulations of firearms, and to allow the Township to continue its efforts to regulate firearms for the health, safety and welfare of the Township.

10. Under Citizens' Forum:

Albert Meinster, 7830 Spring Avenue, expressed concern about the lack of oversight the Township gives to the Police Department and felt that the Board of Commissioners had a responsibility to oversee the actions of members of the Police Department. He wanted to know the oversight procedures.

Mr. Sharkey responded that the Police Department has an Internal Affairs Investigation Unit, and there are policies in place. It was Mr. Sharkey's opinion that Mr. Meinster was disgruntled by a personal incident that was investigated, a decision was rendered, and that he [Mr. Meinster] had completed the due process but was not pleased with the outcome.

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Haywood, and unanimously approved by the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.



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David G. Kravnik  
Township Manager

as per Anna Marie Felix



**PUBLIC ATTENDANCE LIST**  
**Public Affairs Committee, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Public Safety Committee, 7:45 p.m.**  
**Building and Zoning Committee, 8:00 p.m.**  
**Wednesday, March 7, 2012**  
**Curtis Hall**

NAME (Please Print Clearly)	ADDRESS	E-MAIL and/or TELEPHONE
David Scott		DScott2450@AOL
Tom McHugh	127 Hewett Rd Wyncote	
DAVID L. COHEN	321 GERARD AVE E.P.	
Hilda Gecker	1509 Ashbourne E.P. Rd	
Judith Gratz	510 E. Glenside A Wyncote	
YALI GREK	7809 Brookfield	
Joyce Warner	418 Accornae Rd. Wyncote	
RE: Robert & Rebecca Mitchell	7805 Berwyn Rd Cheltenham, PA 19012	(215) 635-5914 ukesensei@comcast.net Re: Mitchell

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CHELTENHAM, CHAPTER 285 THEREOF, ENTITLED VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, BY AMENDING CERTAIN STREET AND PARKING REGULATIONS.

The Board of Commissioners of the Township of Cheltenham hereby ordains:

**SECTION 1.** The Code of the Township of Cheltenham, Chapter 285, Article IV, entitled Schedule of Traffic Regulations, Section 285-43 thereof is hereby amended by **ADDING** the following:

- |                 |      |   |
|-----------------|------|---|
| CENTRAL AVENUE  | (4)  | STOP STREET at Laurel Avenue.   |
| JENKINTOWN ROAD | (9)  | NO TRUCKS, except residential delivery, Church Road to Township Line Road.    |
| MARVIN ROAD     | (11) | NO TRUCKS, except residential delivery, New Second Street to Jenkintown Road. |
| THOMPSON ROAD   | D.   | NO TRUCKS, except residential delivery, Church Road to Township Line Road.    |

**SECTION 2.** That in all other respects Chapter 285 of the Code of the Township of Cheltenham is hereby approved and accepted as amended, and shall continue in full force and effect.

**SECTION 3.** This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval as required by law.

**ENACTED** into an Ordinance this **21st day of March, A.D., 2012.**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
TOWNSHIP OF CHELTENHAM

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Art Haywood, President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
David G. Kraynik, Secretary