

June 4, 2014
Curtis Hall

A regular meeting of the **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** was held tonight, Commissioner J. Andrew Sharkey, Chairman, presiding. Members present were Commissioners McKeown, Norris, Rappoport, and Simon. Also present was Ex-Officio Member Portner.

Staff present were Kenneth Hellendall, Emergency Management Coordinator; Kevin O'Brien, Deputy Chief of Police; Joseph O'Neill, Fire Marshal; Henry Sekawungu, Planning and Zoning Director; and Bryan T. Havir, Township Manager. Also present was Joseph M. Bagley, Esq., Township Solicitor. A Public Attendance List is attached.

Mr. Sharkey called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. He announced that the Commissioners held an Executive Session prior to the meeting to discuss pending litigation.

1. Deputy Chief O'Brien reviewed the Police Activity/Community Policing Unit, Clearance and Juvenile Contact Reports for the month of April, 2014.

Mr. Sharkey noted that crime statistics were down for the one (1) year period from April, 2013 to April 2014.

2. The Committee reviewed a proposed Ordinance amending the Traffic Code to add and delete the following:

ADD – KESWICK AVENUE – NO PARKING BETWEEN SIGNS – west side, from 137 feet to 176 feet north of Glenside Avenue

ADD – KESWICK AVENUE – NO PARKING – west side, from Glenside Avenue to 45 feet north

ADD – KESWICK AVENUE – ONE HOUR PARKING – west side, 45 feet to 65 feet north of Glenside Avenue

ADD – WARING ROAD – HANDICAPPED ONLY PARKING – from 80 feet to 100 feet west of Cedar Road

DELETE – CHELSEA ROAD – HANDICAPPED PARKING – 1716 Chelsea Road

DELETE – ERLLEN ROAD – HANDICAPPED PARKING – 1817 Erlen Road

DELETE – JEFFERSON AVENUE – HANDICAPPED PARKING – south side, from 30 feet east of Elm Avenue to 50 feet east

3. **Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners:** Upon motion of Mr. McKeown, the Committee unanimously 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. Portner, the Committee unanimously accepted the Police Activity/Community Policing Unit, Clearance and Juvenile Contact Reports for the month of April, 2014.

5. At this time, Mr. McKeown announced that neighbors from the vicinity of Rolling Green and Ashbourne Roads were present to express concerns about dogs that are posing a danger in their community.

Community Service Officer Daniel Lannutti gave background information on the incidents that took place; the Police Department's response; citation to the owner; the moving of a nearby school bus stop; the defects in the way the property owner installed a fence that fails to secure the dogs; how the dogs are kept outside for long periods without supervision.

Public Comments:

Kellie Simmons, 7908 Rolling Green Road, stated that the dogs are pit bulls; they run loose; constantly bark; get out from under the fence; the owner does not respond when neighbors complain to the Police.

Arthur Krevitz, 7955 Rolling Green Road, stated that he was bitten twice and had to go to the hospital; the dogs get out by going under the fence; they attacked two (2) 13 year old children and one (1) woman; they were supposed to be quarantined.

Becky Krevitz stated that the dogs are left unsupervised in the yard and get out and want them kept inside.

Stanley Mischuk, 645 Ashbourne Road, stated that the dogs' owner removed the required signage that he was told to have; neighbors are attacked and bitten; constant barking; the dogs go into neighbors' yards; the portion of the fence that abuts his property prevents him from seeing when exiting his driveway in his car, and it is a vehicular obstruction.

Pamela Henry, 609 Ashbourne Road, stated that the dogs are dangerous to walkers.

Sara Koval, 7961 Oak Hill Drive, stated that the dogs' owner is defiant; she gave a timeline of the actions of the owner; the owner continues building the fence even though the Township told him it was illegal; the owner removed a Stop Sign in front of his house that had to be replaced; the pit bulls are dangerous, they are not quarantined or secured; by removing the school bus stop, it appears the dogs are the ones being accommodated.

Shirley Williams, 7907 Rolling Green Road, said that the owner has a threatening personality.

Deputy Chief O'Brien stated that the Police Department will commence an immediate investigation and take all possible action to determine if the situation meets the legal criteria for harboring dangerous animals. He told neighbors to continue calling 911 so all incidents can be put on the record.

Mr. McKeown felt that immediate action was needed. The Committee unanimously agreed. Mr. Bagley advised that one option would be to direct him to file a Motion and Injunction to have the dogs declared a public nuisance. Mr. Simon supported legal action since it was obvious the dogs posed an imminent danger.

Mr. Lannutti stated that the Police Department has to adhere to the criteria of the Pennsylvania Dog Law as it pertains to dangerous dogs. He asked residents to call him with all complaints so that he could document all incidents. He advised that he could file a citation for the harboring of a dangerous dog, which would result in the state's involvement. He notified the Montgomery County Health Department, and the dogs are currently under a quarantine, which means that they cannot be around other animals or people. The Police Department has done everything that it is allowed to do under the law.

The Committee unanimously agreed to direct the Township Solicitor to commence the legal process for filing a Complaint and Injunction to have the dogs declared a public nuisance and directed the Police Department to file a Citation for the harboring of dangerous animals, and to notify the Montgomery County Health Department requesting to have the dogs declared a public health nuisance.

6. A status report on the Fire Companies' Long Range Plan was given by Mr. O'Neill and Ken Wurster, consultant. Mr. O'Neill gave the background on the reasons for the plan, which was perpetrated by the problems facing the volunteer fire companies. He noted that said plan focuses on long-term solutions to the problems.

Mr. Wurster gave a presentation on the draft overview of the strategic plan (see attached). He reviewed his biography and expert experience; objectives of the plan; problems facing the fire companies; guiding principles; services provided by the fire companies; fire companies' accomplishments; strategic goals of the plan; the formation of sub-committees to review specific aspects of the plan.

It was Mr. Sharkey's opinion that all five (5) Fire Companies needed to be involved and work as a team for the process to be successful. He noted that there were 1,600 runs in 2013 and 539 hours of service. He was concerned about sustainability of providing this amount of service; the disparity of the five (5) districts covered by the Fire Companies; and he felt it was important to spread the calls out among the Fire Companies.

Mr. Simon asked about the correlation between the number of members of a Fire Company and the calls, i.e. some companies have lesser members and more calls. Joseph Stucker, Glenside Fire Company Chief, responded that it is not a matter of numbers but a matter of development and population since some areas of the Township are more densely populated than others, some have large institutions, apartment complexes and shopping centers.

Mr. Sharkey asked when the plan would be finalized, and Mr. Wurster reported that a written draft should be available in the 3rd quarter of this year.

Discussion concluded.

7. Upon motion of Mr. McKeown, the Committee unanimously accepted the Report of the Fire Marshal for the month of May, 2014.

8. Upon motion of Mr. McKeown, the Committee unanimously accepted the Report of the EMS Director for the month of May, 2014.

9. Upon motion of Mr. McKeown, the Committee unanimously accepted the Report of the Emergency Management Coordinator for the month of May, 2014.

10. Under Old Business – None.

11. Under New Business: Upon motion of Mr. Sharkey, the Committee unanimously approved Community Service Awards to Sgt. John Slavin and Officer Jeffrey Murphy for services performed beyond their call of duty at the Inaugural Glenside Arts Festival.

12. Under Citizens Forum – None.

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Portner, and unanimously approved by the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.



Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

as per Anna Marie Felix



PUBLIC ATTENDANCE LIST
Public Safety Committee, 7:30 p.m.
Public Affairs Committee, 7:45 p.m.
Building and Zoning Committee, 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 4, 2014
Curtis Hall

NAME (Please Print Clearly)	ADDRESS	E-MAIL and/or TELEPHONE
DARREN HARRISON	Elkins Park Fire Co.	
John F. Washington Jr	Ogontz Fire Comp President	
David Mulligan	LaMott Fire Co.	
Dan Lavetta	Elkins Park Fire Co.	
ALLEN SMITH	2625 CHURCH GLAUSBORO	
Janet Miseczuk	645 Ashbourne Rd Cheltenham	
Ken & Pauline Kretschmer	608 Spring Ave EP	
Jamie & Shirley Williams	7907 Rolling Green Rd Cheltenham	

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:

- KESWICK AVENUE (16) NO PARKING BETWEEN SIGNS, west side, from 137 feet to 176 feet north of Glenside Avenue.
- KESWICK AVENUE (17) NO PARKING, west side, from Glenside Avenue to 45 feet north
- KESWICK AVENUE (18) ONE HOUR PARKING, west side, 45 feet to 65 feet north of Glenside Avenue
- WARING ROAD (C) HANDICAPPED PARKING ONLY, west side 45 feet south of Cedar Road to 100 feet south of Cedar Road (for 8112 Cedar Road). This addition is effective for the duration period that this resident is eligible for a reserved handicapped parking space.

SECTION 2. The Code of the Township of Cheltenham, Chapter 285, Article IV, entitled Schedule of Traffic Regulations, Section 285-43 thereof is hereby amended by **DELETING** the following:

- CHELSEA ROAD (3) HANDICAPPED PARKING at 1716.
- ERLEN ROAD (6) HANDICAPPED PARKING at 1817.
- JEFFERSON AVENUE (17) HANDICAPPED PARKING, south side, from 30 feet east of Elm Avenue to 50 feet east.

SECTION 3. 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 4. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval as required by law.

ENACTED into an Ordinance this **18th of June, A.D., 2014.**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOWNSHIP OF CHELTENHAM

By _____
Harvey Portner, President

ATTEST: _____
Bryan T. Havir, Township Manager



Cheltenham Township Fire Department

Long Range Planning Overview

June 4, 2014



Bio

- Director of Protective Services with PA based Fortune 500 energy company
- 28 years experience in volunteer fire services- past fire chief, member of AFD accreditation team
- Developed and conducted training with volunteer and career fire departments globally
- PA State Fire Academy Suppression Instructor, Adjunct Faculty at St. Joseph's University and Penn State Abington
- Recognized as Chief Fire Officer, Certified Emergency Manager, Associate Business Continuity Professional, and Master Exercise Practitioner



"If You Fail to Plan, You Are Planning to Fail"

-Benjamin Franklin



Meeting Objectives

- Provide an Overview of:
 - Strategic Planning Process
 - Strategic Goals, Objectives, Roles and Responsibilities
 - Committees
- Next Steps



Introduction

- Process is ongoing, major focus commenced in 2012
- All (volunteer) fire companies across US are experiencing challenges
 - Declining memberships
 - Training requirements
 - Competing time commitments
 - Traditional funding sources



Introduction

- Strategic Plans are "dynamic" and living documents
 - Objectives met as they arise; some already in progress
- Plan based on stakeholder interviews, survey and SWOT analysis
- Department's desire to meet the evolving needs of the community and the challenges presented to the member companies



Introduction

- **Guiding Principles**
 - Safety of members and citizens
 - Quality service
 - Pride, Respect, and Teamwork
 - Commitment to preservation of life and property
- **Organizational Background**
 - Over 100 years of history
 - Over 200 volunteer members



Introduction

- CTFD provides a range of public safety and emergency safety services which include the following:
 - Structural fire suppression and search/ rescue
 - Vehicle rescue/extrication
 - Water Rescue
 - Trench rescue, high angle rescue, and other technical rescue
 - Brush fire response
 - Hazardous Materials response
 - Gas odor response
 - Electrical fire response
 - Emergency medical services assistance
 - Support Police, EMS, Emergency Management and other public safety organizations



Introduction

- **Recent Accomplishments**
 - Building additions
 - Training and Certification
 - Five companies successfully implemented a 4-year SAFER grant, increasing member recruitment and retention.



Strategic Goal #1

- **Improve Department Training Systems and Opportunities**
 - **Opportunities for Improvement:**
 - Succession Planning and Leadership Development
 - High Risk/Low Frequency Events
 - Joint Training Opportunities



Strategic Goal #2

- **Improve Recruitment and Retention Activities**
 - **Opportunities for Improvement:**
 - Recruitment of New Firefighters
 - Retention of Existing Firefighters
 - Reintegration of Non-Active Members to Active Status



Strategic Goal #3

- **Identify New Revenue Sources to Meet Anticipated Needs**
 - **Opportunities for Improvement:**
 - Company-Level Funding Challenges
 - Department-Level and Capital Funding Challenges
 - Economy and Impact on Operations



Strategic Goal #4

- Standardize Policies, Procedures, Guidelines and Standard of Cover
 - Opportunities for Improvement:
 - Consistent Policies and Procedures
 - Coverage Areas and Responses
 - Staffing and Personnel



Strategic Goal #5

- Evaluate Current Facilities, Apparatus, and Equipment and Develop Standardized Approach to Maintenance and Procurement
 - Opportunities for Improvement:
 - Consistent Equipment and Apparatus
 - Consistent Procurement and Maintenance Process
 - Effectiveness of Current Station Placement/Quantity



Strategic Goal #6

- Improve Community Relations and Public Education
 - Opportunities for Improvement:
 - Community Event Participation
 - Public Awareness of Department Activities
 - Community Public Fire Education



Committees

- Each committee has a charter and an assignment
- Committee will review appropriate goal and assign level of importance and timeline
- Committee decides on meeting frequency
- Committee reports to Long Range Planning Committee



Next Steps

- Complete Committee Assignments
- Finalize current plan and commence implementation
- Updates to stakeholders



Feedback

Thank you for your time and consideration, any questions?





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Public Safety Committee, 7:30 p.m.
Public Affairs Committee, 7:45 p.m.
Building and Zoning Committee, 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 4, 2014
Curtis Hall

NAME (Please Print Clearly)	ADDRESS	E-MAIL and/or TELEPHONE
Margaret Cotton	7901 Rolling Green Rd.	
STEPHEN MODZELEWSKI	2617 CHURCH RD	
Andrzej Krutz	7915 Kelley Ave Old. Cheltenham	
Sava Koval	7961 Oakley Chel Dr.	
Sandra Graberg	7930 Rolling Green Rd.	
Pamela Henry	609 Ashbourne Rd	
Ed Dracht	7213 Rolling Hill	
Abdrey Shuster	7938 Waltham Rd.	



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NAME (Please Print Clearly)	ADDRESS	E-MAIL and/or TELEPHONE
Becky Krevitz	7955 Rolph Grove Rd	215-806-7612