

A regular meeting of the **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** was held tonight, Chairman Daniel B. Norris, presiding. Members present were Commissioners Brockington, Pransky, Rappoport and Sharkey. Also present was Ex-Officio Member Simon.

Staff present were Alyson Elliott, Assistant Township Manager; John Frye, Acting Police Chief; Joseph O'Neill, Fire Marshall; EMS Director, Kenneth Hellendall; and Bryan T. Havir, Township Manager. A Public Attendance List is attached.

The Board of Directors met in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss matters regarding real estate and collective bargaining negotiations.

1. **Report of the Acting Police Chief**

- A. Acting Chief Frye reviewed the Police Clearance and Juvenile Clearance Reports for the month of December 2016:

Mr. Norris mentioned that the overall crime rate in 2016 decreased by 2.2% from the previous year. Chief Frye confirmed that crime decreased in all categories with the exception of theft from vehicles.

- B. Acting Chief Frye presented an Ordinance amending the Vehicles and Traffic Code to add a handicapped parking sign in front of 7901 Glen Oak Road.

Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners: Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously recommended the Board of Commissioners authorize the advertisement of its intent to consider the adoption of an Ordinance amending Chapter 285 of the Township Code, thereof, entitled "Vehicle and Traffic" at its regularly-scheduled meeting on March 15, 2017.

- C. Acting Police Chief Frye announced the retirement of two Cheltenham Township Police Officers: Officer Robert Dougherty will be retiring after 31 years of service and Detective Michael Levitsky will retire after 28 years of service, effective December 31, 2016.

Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners: Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the committee unanimously recommended that the Board of Commissioners consider adopting Resolutions honoring the retirement of Officer Robert Dougherty and Detective Michael Levitsky at its regularly-scheduled meeting on February 15, 2017.

- D. Acting Chief Frye recapped on the Police Athletic League (PAL) kickoff event. The Police Athletic League will be meeting in two weeks to plan the next event, which will be held sometime in March.

Mr. Brockington agreed the PAL kickoff was a great event. He then asked if the year-to-date drug violations coincide with the heroin epidemic. Acting Chief Frye said there have been eight saves by the Police Department using Narcan. Mr. Pransky asked if these saves were mostly residents of the Township. Acting Chief Frye stated that all the responses were to residences located in the Township.

Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously received the Report of the Acting Chief of Police.

2. **Report of the Fire Marshal**

Fire Marshal O'Neill stated that the report is a report for 2016. He is working on getting a report together to compare the last three years.

Mr. Pransky asked for tips to help residents prepare for the upcoming snow storm. Mr. O'Neill said the biggest safety concern will be for residents to shovel out fire hydrants.

Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously received the Report of the Fire Marshal.

3. **Report of the EMS Director**

Mr. Hellendall reported that Assistant Chief Smaltini sent him a letter yesterday regarding the heroin overdose save using Narcan. Mr. Hellendall thanked the Police Department for the Narcan-related saves.

Mr. Norris asked about the replacement of Paramedic Nate Wass. Mr. Hellendall clarified that he is not being replaced; he is being activated for duty for the United States Navy. The part-timers will be covering for him until his return in November.

Mr. Norris asked about the EMS bills being down \$50,000 from 2015-2016. Mr. Hellendall said that 98% of the reduction is due to the insurance companies. Some of that will be made up in period 13.

Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously received the Report of the Emergency Medical Services Director for the month of January 2017.

4. **Report of the Emergency Management Coordinator**

Mr. Hellendall stated with the upcoming snow storm, please refer people to the Emergency Management Facebook page for the latest information. They will be keeping it up-to-date as much as possible.

Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously received the Report of the Emergency Management Coordinator for the month of January 2017.

5. **Report of the Township Manager:**

Mr. Havir reported that the Administration has completed the in-house job search for the Chief of Police. He and Commissioner Simon recommend Acting Chief Frye be appointed for the position in accordance with the Home Rule Charter, Article VII, Section 702(b). Mr. Frye has been with the Police Department for 22 years and has been promoted to several positions. He was promoted to Deputy Chief in December 2015 and has been Acting Chief of Police since July 1, 2016. Mr. Simon and Mr. Havir are confident he has the ability to oversee the day-to-day operations of the department and they are pleased to submit his name to the committee for advice and consent this evening for permanent appointment as Chief of Police.

Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners: Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously recommended the Board of Commissioners appoint Acting Chief of Police John Frye to Chief of Police at its regularly-scheduled meeting on February 15, 2017 in accordance with the Township Manager's recommendation per the Home Rule Charter, Article VII, Section 702(b).

Mr. Frye thanked Mr. Havir and the Board for having the confidence in him to lead the Cheltenham Township Police Department. He is honored to lead a great group of people and a great Township.

6. **Old Business:** None.

6. **New Business:**

Glenside Fire Company Chief Joe Stuckert issued a letter to the Commissioners from members of the Fire Board regarding the inability of the volunteer fire fighters to implement the strategic plan, largely due to a lack of manpower, since the departments are staffed by volunteers with full-time jobs and membership is declining. Chiefs of the fire departments will still meet to work on policies within the departments.

Mr. Sharkey thanked Mr. Stuckert and all volunteer fire fighters for their hard work; their dedication does not go unnoticed. Mr. Sharkey made some suggestions on ways to publicly recognize their work for the Board to consider, including: reduced pool membership, swearing in new members and chiefs at the Board of Commissioners meetings, and recognizing acts of valor.

8. **Citizens' Forum:** None

9. There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Norris, and unanimously approved by the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.



Bryan T. Havir
Township Manager

as per Ashley Lupino



Meeting Attendance Sheet



Public Safety 7:30 PM
Public Affairs 7:45 PM
Finance Committee 8:00 PM

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Cheltenham Township Administration Building
8230 Old York Road | Elkins Park, PA 19027

(Please Print Clearly)

No.	Name	E-mail or Other Contact Info, if desired	Member (Y/N)
1	Kevin Reis	Fhsprestorationmanager@gmail	
2	Guthrie Blackwood		
3	Howard Solomon		
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