

PRESENTATIONS – began at 6:52 p.m.

Swearing In of Officer Kenneth Witter and Class II Commendation for Performance,
Recognition of Officers Brown and Witter:

Chief Molloy said Officer Kenneth Witter graduated from Norristown High School and then attended Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he received a Bachelors Degree in Science and Communication Media. After college, Ken played professional arena football for the Colorado Ice for three years. He then served as Montgomery County Police Dispatch before beginning his career with the Abington Township Police Department in late 2017 where he then attended Temple University Police Academy.

While at the academy, they appointed him to Sergeant, and after graduation, Ken was assigned and completed our FTO Program. Ken’s family was present to witness being sworn in.

Honorable District Judge John D. Kessler administered the Oath of Office to Police Officer Kenneth Witter of the Abington Township Police Department before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 6th day of March 2019.

Chief Molloy said on July 19, 2018, Officers Ken Witter and Ryan Brown were dispatched to 2329 Old Welsh Road to check on the well-being of a Vietnam Veteran who had been struggling with mental issues and post-traumatic stress disorder. When officers arrived they made contact with the resident and were invited inside. The resident indicated he was experiencing some disturbing flashbacks from the war and asked how he could get information on how he could get transportation to a Veterans Hospital. During this conversation, the resident ran abruptly towards the television, and from a shelf, grabbed a handgun in which he pointed it at both officers.

Officers Witter and Brown acted without hesitation wrestling the resident to the ground disarming him when the resident indicated that he was attempting “suicide by cop.” Chief Molloy commended both officers for a job well-done.

Commissioner Schreiber presented Police Officer Kenneth Witter and Police Officer Ryan Brown with Class II Commendations, in recognition of their performance and compassionate, heroic actions saving a man’s life, before the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington on this 6th day of March 2019.

Presentation ended at 7:02 p.m.

The stated meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with Commissioner Schreiber presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners SCHREIBER, DiPLACIDO, ROTHMAN, THOMPSON
Excused: VAHEY

Township Manager MANFREDI
Assistant Township Manager WEHMEYER
Township Solicitor CLARKE
Police Chief MOLLOY
Fire Marshal ROHRER

Also Present: Commissioners LUKER, KLINE, BOWMAN, ZAPPONE, BRODSKY, CARSWELL, GILLESPIE, MYERS, SPIEGELMAN, WINEGRAD

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner DiPlacido to approve minute of the Public Safety Committee Meeting of February 6, 2019.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item PS-01-031419:

Commissioner Schreiber noted no action will be taken tonight on this item as listed on the agenda. Hearing and adoption of Ordinance No. 2164 will be held on March 14, 2019.

Item PS-02-031419:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner DiPlacido to promote Sergeant Shawn Williams to the rank of Probationary Lieutenant effective April 15, 2019 provided he successfully completes the remaining portions of the promotional process.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any comments from Commissioners. There were none.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

Item PS-03-031419:

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner DiPlacido to appoint candidate Lauren Porter from the Certified Civil Service Eligibility List to the position of Probationary Police Officer provided she successfully completes the Background, Physical and Psychological tests and all entry requirements of the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission for Act 120 Training, effective March 25, 2019.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any comments from Commissioners. There were none.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any public comments. There were none.

MOTION was ADOPTED 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT – general matters relating to Public Safety:

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, expressed concern about the “safety” of the Brandolini property.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard J. Manfredi, Township Manager/Secretary

sev