

The stated meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Wednesday, October 5, 2016 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with Commissioner Schreiber presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners SCHREIBER, DiPLACIDO, BOWMAN, SPIEGELMAN, KALINOSKI

Township Manager LEFEVRE
Township Solicitor CLARKE
Fire Marshal CLARK
Chief of Police KELLY
Traffic Safety Officer FREED
Emergency Management Administrator McAneney

Also Present: Commissioners LUKER, KLINE, MYERS, HECKER, FARREN, ROTHMAN, SANCHEZ, MARKMAN, GILLESPIE

MINUTES: Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to approve the minutes of the August 31, 2016 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Police Department Report:

Traffic Safety Officer Freed reminded everyone that the September Traffic Safety Blitz has ended, although signs have remained posted in the areas where schools are located to provide more awareness. He also reminded motorists that October 31st is Halloween and to be on alert for trick-or-treaters and pedestrians during that time.

Tom McAneney, Emergency Management Administrator, reported that during January 21-23, 2016, we had the fourth largest snowstorm in Pennsylvania's history where snowstorm Jonas dropped almost two feet of snow in 30 hours over a weekend in the Township.

FEMA declared this area a disaster, and during that snowstorm, 76 employees of the Township worked 2,574 overtime hours during that weekend and 762 tons of salt was used and the Township was back open for business by Monday.

Documentation was submitted to FEMA showing costs to clean up during that weekend were in the amount of \$304,173 and FEMA approved a 75% reimbursement in the amount of \$228,130 that should be sent within six to eight weeks.

Chief Kelly said it was reported in the news recently about Sergeant Ozzie Toledo and Officer Gary Martinez who disarmed a man that was threatening to commit suicide and the officers will be presented with Class II Commendations before the Board of Commissioners at its meeting next week. Congressman Brendan Boyle as well as State Representative Madeleine Dean will also present them with awards.

Also, Abington Township Police Department won the International Association of Chiefs of Police Ecosystems Community-Oriented Policing Award, and we are one of four Police Departments in the world to receive this recognition, and he is really proud of it.

He announced that the Willow Grove NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet will be held on October 16, 2016; Tuesday, October 18th will be the PAL Food Festival and there will be additional patrols on October 31st, Halloween.

Commissioner Schreiber acknowledged Rich Garrett, Second Alarmers and Assistant Fire Marshal John Rohrer, who were present to answer any questions by the Board.

Ordinance No. 2126 – To Amend Chapter 156 “Vehicles and Traffic” Article II “Traffic Regulations” Section 14 “Stop Intersections” and Article III “Parking Regulations” Section 25 “Parking Prohibited At All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here To Corner; Parking Prohibited Except Certain Hours; No Stopping Or Standing” Section 28 “Special Purpose Parking Zones”

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to adopt Ordinance No. 2126 amending Chapter 156 “Vehicles and Traffic” Article II “Traffic Regulations” Section 14 “Stop Intersections” and Article III “Parking Regulations” Section 25 “Parking Prohibited At All Times; No Parking Between Signs; No Parking Here To Corner; Parking Prohibited Except Certain Hours; No Stopping Or Standing” Section 28 “Special Purpose Parking Zones” at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners on October 13, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Ordinance No. 2127 – To Amend Chapter 156 “Vehicles and Traffic” Article II “Traffic Regulations” Section 14 “Stop Intersections”

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to advertise Ordinance No. 2127 amending Chapter 156 “Vehicles and Traffic” Article II “Traffic Regulations” Section 14 – “Stop Intersections” for adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners on November 10, 2016 at 7:30 p.m.

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

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Aggressive Driving/BuckleUp PA Grant

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to authorize Township officials to accept a grant award from the North Central Highway Safety Network, Inc. in the amount of \$15,000.00 with the Township’s matching portion of \$1,000.00 The Township’s match will cover the Social Security cost of the officers working the grant as this expense is not covered by the grant. At the conclusion of the grant, the social security expense will be transferred to 01-04-044-5110.

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

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Disposal of Unclaimed Confiscated Bicycles

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to direct the Police Department to donate to the Bikes for Tykes Program, c/o Sussman Automotive, all unclaimed bicycle parts which have been confiscated and are being held by the Department.

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

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

2017 Lieutenants' Promotional Examination

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Spiegelman to authorize Staff to proceed with implementation of the Lieutenants' Promotional Examination, with the cost up to \$35,000.00 to be included in the 2017 Budget.

Chief Kelly noted that funds will be expended from 2017 budget and this is a request to proceed with the exam in the first quarter of that year.

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

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

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any general comments relating to Public Safety. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael LeFevre, Township Manager

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