

The regular meeting of the **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** for September 2022 was held tonight via web-conference, Chairman Brockington presiding. Members present were Commissioners Areman, Holland, Rappoport, Pransky, Zygmund-Felt and Ex-Officio member Norris.

Staff present via web-conference were: Robert Zienkowski, Township Manager; Alyson Elliott, Assistant Township Manager; John Slavin, Chief of Police; Scott Lynch, Fire Marshal; Mike Rubin, IT Network Administrator; and Kenneth Hellendall, Director of EMS and Emergency Management Coordinator.

Mr. Brockington called the meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 7:46 p.m.

1. **Report of the Police Chief**

- a. Chief Slavin reviewed the Police Clearance and Juvenile Clearance Reports for the month of July 2022. Mr. Areman thanked Chief Slavin for his vigilance on traffic safety and speeding and appreciated the police presence on the roads.
- b. Upon the motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously authorized a purchase order for Cody Systems in the amount of \$3,855 for the annual subscription license to COBRAnet.

Mr. Zygmund-Felt asked if there is value in including the new IT Director, Mike Rubin to give Township staff access to Cody since Mr. Rubin is very well versed in Cody. Both Mr. Rubin & Chief Slavin stated they will discuss, but the information in Cody is privileged information to be used between Police Agencies.

- c. Cones with a Cop was a success at all four firehouses. Chief Slavin is looking to hold a joint Coffee with a Cop with Abington Police at the Glenside Train Station in October and another Breaking Bread event will return in November.
- d. Mr. Areman asked about reports of checks being stolen from mailboxes throughout the township. Chief Slavin stated this is an active & ongoing investigation and he is limited on what he can say, but recommended residents take mail inside to the Post Office instead of dropping off in the outside mailbox.

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

2. **Report of the Fire Marshal**

- a. Mr. Lynch presented the fire report for the month of July 2022.

Mr. Zygmund-Felt complimented all four firehouses on being more engaged and responsive to calls. Their retention and recruitment efforts are doing well. Mr. Lynch noted there was no Fire Board meeting held this month.

Upon the motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously received the July 2022 report of the Fire Marshal.

3. **Report of the EMS Director**

- a. Mr. Hellendall presented the EMS Operational Report for the month of August 2022

Mr. Hellendall attended a radio committee meeting and is happy to report there are no complaints and the system is working well throughout the county.

Upon the motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously received the Report of the EMS Director.

- b. **Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners:** Upon the motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously approved a purchase order for 10-8 Emergency Vehicle Service, LLC in the amount of \$210,410.50 to re-chassis the oldest ambulance with a new 2023 Ford E-450 Chassis.

Mr. Hellendall stated this is the third time this ambulance is being re-chassis'd, which is one more than normal. A new ambulance cannot be ordered because it will not fit inside the existing building. The re-chassis was budgeted for \$170,000; however, vehicle prices have increased due to production delays. This new amount also includes new lights since the old ones have become antiquated. Mrs. Rappoport asked if something can be written into contracts to avoid price increases due to production delays since this is happening all over the Township. Mr. Hellendall said that delays are not included in any stipulations.

- c. Upon motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously approved a purchase order for Stryker Medical in the amount of \$16,996.61 to purchase a LUCAS 3 Chest Compression System.
- d. Upon motion of Mr. Brockington, the Committee unanimously approved a purchase order for Stryker Medical in the amount of \$9,021.44 to purchase "wings" for the Ambulance litter.

Mr. Hellendall stated both expenses for Stryker Medical are fully reimbursed from a grant, but in order to obtain the current pricing, the order needs to be placed before November 1, 2022.

- e. Mr. Zygmund-Felt inquired about personnel needs. Mr. Hellendall said they are still down two full-time paramedics and one is still out on leave. Ms. Samuels is doing a good job in advertising, but no applicants have inquired yet. He is hopeful with the new contract and increase in salary for full-time as well as proposing an increase in part-time pay, he will be able to fill these vacant positions. He noted the Township part-time pay is not competitive with nearby ambulance squads.
- f. Mr. Zygmund-Felt asked what was being done about the \$427,000 past due amount in billing and if it was going to collection or being written off. Mr. Hellendall said the billing company is able to recoup some of the delinquencies by going to estates, if applicable, and skip tracing, but that takes some time. He will inquire about writing off the loss.

4. **Report of the EMA Director**

- a. Mr. Hellendall thanked Springfield & Abington Townships for the signs used at the Glenside Food Truck Festival. He also thanked CSO Jennifer Clark and Chief John Slavin for their assistance for this successful event. A new sign is on order, but has not been received, so the Township is borrowing when needed.
- b. Mr. Hellendall noted Aqua has agreed to replace all the fish at the Curtis ponds in September or October and they have been very cooperative. Mrs. Rappoport asked that the Friends of Curtis Arboretum be kept in the loop as they have concerns. Mr. Hellendall said they will be notified when the fish come in.
- c. **Recommendation to the Board of Commissioners:** Upon the motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously approved a purchase order for Southeastern PA Unmanned Aircraft Systems in the amount of \$28,551.00 for the purchase of three (3) drones.

There was discussion on the types of drones being purchased and what they can be used for. Mr. Hellendall said purchasing these drones will be a joint effort between Emergency Management and the Police Department. The cost will be shared between the Emergency Management budget and the Police Asset Forfeiture account. Staff and Commissioners are excited to have this technology readily available. Select Township staff will be sent to pilot school for training and the drones will be able to be utilized by multiple departments.

- d. Upon the motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously approved purchase orders for Militia Hill Security, Inc. in the amounts of: (1) \$4,690, (2) \$9,875, and (3) \$12,900 for security upgrades at various Township facilities. The security upgrades include:
 - the replacement of three cameras and a recorder at the Public Works Yard
 - the installation of two new cameras at the EMS Building
 - the installation of three new cameras at the Tax Office
 - the replacement of the recorder at the Township Administration Building

- the installation of a two door access control system at the EMS Building
- the installation of a two door access control system at the Tax Office
- the replacement of the software and two existing card readers at the Township Administration Building

Mr. Hellendall explained that the approval of these invoices replaces the previous request from July 2022. Mr. Hellendall said he reviewed what he assembled with Mr. Rubin, who recommended a different system. For a little more money, the Township will get a better system. The systems can be transferred to a new building if necessary and reports can easily be pulled for review.

Upon the motion of Mr. Norris, the Committee unanimously received the Report of the Emergency Management Coordinator.

5. **Old Business**

- a. Glenside Food Truck Festival: Mr. Areman thanked the Police Department, EMS, Fire, Chief Slavin, Mr. Hellendall and Mr. Lynch for shepherding a very successful Glenside Food Truck Festival. With the number of people in attendance, there were no issues and everyone enjoyed themselves.
- b. Commercial Truck Parking: Mr. Brockington asked for an update on the commercial truck parking at Greenleaf and Mrs. Rappoport added her same concerns at the rear lot of Lynnewood Gardens. Chief Slavin stated each of these locations are private property and has been an ongoing issue. The Department has been responding and ticketing each time they are called. Towing is not an option because the properties are private. The Commissioners are asking if the property owners can be fined as well. This is something to look into and the Chief would like to see the Township increase fines. Mr. Zienkowski asked Chief Slavin to notify PA State Police about enforcing the commercial trucks parking along Route 309.

6. **New Business**

- a. Mr. Zienkowski spoke about adding lights and cameras to the Township parks to help increase monitoring capabilities and hopefully cut down on thefts, vandalism, illegal dumping, etc. He would like to see this incorporated in budget discussions and to phase in over time.

7. **Citizens Forum** – None.

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Brockington, and unanimously approved by the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.



Robert Zienkowski
Township Manager

per Eileen Wass