

The stated meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Abington was held on Wednesday, September 30, 2015 at the Township Administration Building, Abington, PA., with Commissioner Schreiber presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Commissioners SCHREIBER, DiPLACIDO, KALINOSKI, BOWMAN, FARREN, SR.

Township Manager LEFEVRE
Assistant Legal Counsel GALLAGHER
Fire Marshal CLARK
Chief of Police KELLY
Traffic Safety Officer FREED
Traffic Safety Officer POSEY

Also Present: Commissioners LUKER, MYERS, MARKMAN, GILLESPIE, SANCHEZ, JONES

MINUTES: Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2015 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Commissioner Schreiber acknowledged Rich Garrett, Second Alarmers, who was present to answer any questions by the Board.

Police Department Report:

Traffic Safety Officer Freed reminded everyone that it is the end of September and the Traffic Safety Blitz is over and all lawn signs must be taken down. Also, on October 21st the Police Department, in cooperation with Abington School District, will be running a program called, "Operation Safe Stop," in which the police will follow the school buses on their routes watching for motorists passing school buses with their stop lights and stop arms activated.

Chief Kelly reported that during the Papal visit we were able to exercise activities that were never done before in Montgomery County and it went very well.

Also, on Friday October 2, 2015 is the Susan G. Komen Walk event that begins at the Willow Grove Mall and the PAL Food Festival will be held on October 13th.

Following up on the discussion about the Red Light Camera program at the last Board meeting, there was interest expressed by the Commissioners to discuss other traffic calming measures in the future that can be done at the Board's pleasure.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for that item and Commissioner Jones' other traffic-related item to be placed on the next Public Safety Committee meeting's agenda.

Ordinance No. 2101- To Amend Chapter 156 (Vehicles and Traffic), Article II – (Traffic Regulations), Section 14 (Stop Intersection), 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) and Section 27 (Parking Time Limited)

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to advertise Ordinance No. 2101- To Amend Chapter 156 (Vehicles and Traffic), Article II – (Traffic Regulations), Section 14 (Stop Intersection), 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) and Section 27 (Parking Time Limited) for adoption at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners on November 12, 2015 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.

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 bicycles and bicycle parts which have been confiscated and are being held by the Department.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any comments from Commissioners.

Commissioner Kalinoski asked have there been more bicycles confiscated this year than last year?

Chief Kelly replied the numbers go up and down slightly every year. We do get some of the bicycles back to their rightful owners, but still end up with most of them. The majority of the bikes need a tremendous amount of repair and, by donating them to Sussman, they do all of the labor getting them in better shape so they can be given to children.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked for the list of bikes to be distributed through email addresses.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

NFPA 1582 Compliant – Firefighter Physicals

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to approve Township officials to approve continuation of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Compliant Firefighter Physicals and Wellness Evaluation for ATFD Members.

Commissioner Schreiber questioned whether the cost of \$24,000 is the same as last year.

Fire Marshal Clark replied it has been the same cost for the past three years.

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.

Child Passenger Safety Grant

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to authorize Township officials to accept a grant award from the North Central Highway Safety Network, Inc. in the amount of \$3,500.00 with the Township's matching portion approximately \$51.00.

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.

Buckle Up Pennsylvania Seat Belt Enforcement and Education Project

Commissioner Schreiber made a MOTION, seconded by Commissioner Kalinoski to authorize Township officials to accept a grant extension from the North Central Highway Safety Network in the amount up to \$8,000.00. The Department of Transportation previously funded this program through Buckle Up Pennsylvania and is now funding this program through the North Central Highway Safety Network.

Chief Kelly commented that these programs are done by civilians and volunteers and we cannot say enough about the great job they do for the Township at no additional cost for citizens.

Commissioner Schreiber clarified that this program is also to make sure children are buckled properly into their car seats as well as wearing seat belts. Is that correct?

Chief Kelly replied that is correct.

Commissioner Jones asked is the amount of training for this program significant or basic?

Chief Kelly replied training is complicated and it takes practice and repetition to get it right.

Commissioner Schreiber asked if someone wants to be sure their car seat is installed correctly, who should they call?

Chief Kelly replied Community Police of the Police Department.

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

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any public comments.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, suggested a short video of how to install it properly on the Township channel.

Chief Kelly replied each car seat is different and every vehicle is different and that is the challenge of it, so a "one size fits all" type of video could not be done.

Commissioner Myers agreed that it is specific to the type of vehicle, the type of car seat as well as the age and size of the child. It is a wonderful service and sometimes it takes two people to install it properly.

MOTION was ADOPTED 5-0.

Commissioner Schreiber asked for any general comments relating to Public Safety.

Commissioner Bowman asked for a discussion item on the expanded use of cameras to be installed in parks specifically Roslyn Park to be placed on the agenda of next month's Public Safety Committee meeting as there has been incidents of graffiti and vandalism, and his constituents have expressed concern.

Commissioner Kalinoski announced that next week is Fire Prevention Week and on Sunday, October 11th is the Edge Hill Fire Company's Pancake Breakfast will be held at the North Penn VFW from 8-12 p.m.

Commissioner Bowman announced that Ardsley Family Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 3rd; however, keep an eye on the Township channel for it to be changed to the rain date as they forecasting bad weather for Saturday.

Lora Lehmann, 1431 Bryant Lane, asked for the figures from 2013 in regards to the red light camera program.

Rich Garrett, Second Alarmers, cautioned that the Township may possibly experience our first Hurricane, so make sure you have enough gas for your generators.

Neil Dougherty, 505 Sylvania Avenue, commented that he has lived at his residence for 10 years, and over those 10 years, there have been five accidents on his property that stems from the bend in the road at Sylvania Avenue and Jenkintown Road, and the speeding traffic is getting worse, and he needs help. He recommended that a sign be posted saying, "Reduce Speed Ahead," at Edge Hill and Jenkintown Roads and the speed limit should be reduced to 25 MPH.

Also, he thanked Commissioner Gillespie for the work that she has done to improve the lighting on Jenkintown Road. The LED lamps make the area much brighter.

Traffic Safety Officer Freed replied he spoke with Mr. Dougherty today in regards to his recommendations. Also, Jenkintown Road is a State road and PennDOT's approval is needed for anything done on that road.

Raymond Bell, Parkview Avenue, thanked Commissioner Hecker and Traffic Safety Officer Freed for meeting with him in regards to the intersection of Parkview and Lycoming Avenues.

Public Safety Committee Meeting

September 30, 2015

ADJOURNMENT: 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael LeFevre, Township Manager

sev