



## Public Safety Committee Meeting April 24, 2021

**Members Present:** Mayor Rohan Hepkins, Councilor Delores McCabe, Councilor Liana Roadcloud, Police Chief Anthony Paparo, Finance Director Nafis Nichols, Code Enforcement Director/Emergency Management Coordinator/Fire Marshal Rufus Stokes, Thomas Abrams, and Denise Stinson

**Absent:** Tax Collector Julianne James, Solicitor Charles M. Gibbs, Fire Chief Michael Diienno, Public Works Director Jeffery Wilkinson

**Other Attendees:** Nicole Beaty and Lauren Footman

**The Public Safety Committee Meeting was held via Zoom and started at approximately 9:30 a.m.**

**Mayor Hepkins opened the meeting with a prayer.**

### **Mayor's Report**

- The Mayor discussed the anticipated verdict announcement for the Derek Chauvin trial, the person who was charged with the murder of George Floyd. Also, he expressed his concerns about police engagement with the community and the use of firearms versus tasers.
- The Mayor made a request to Delaware County for the amount of Yeadon residents that were vaccinated so far. Recently, the State allows all residents 16 years of age and older to receive a vaccine and they are now being administered in several locations. Also, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) resumed the use of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.
- A new sign was ordered for the Delaware County Wellness Center, but the delivery date is unknown.
- Ms. Footman asked for an update regarding the recent shooting at the Yeadon Community Park. Chief Paparo answered the Police Department knows who the suspect is but the victim is not cooperating. However, the police plan to move forward with an arrest.
- Councilor Roadcloud asked when the Civil Service Commission will start accepting applications to fill the vacant seat. Mr. Nichols answered we are always accepting applications. Also, any official at a public meeting can make a motion to act.
- Ms. Footman asked when the police contracts are up for negotiation and if the chief and members of Council are involved in the negotiations. Chief Paparo answered we are in the final year of a 5-year deal. The Mayor stated usually the Solicitor takes care of the negotiations and Council is updated.
- Chief Paparo and the committee members discussed police reform, public input, and qualified immunity.

- Nicole Beaty asked when the next Civil Service Commission meeting will be held. Councilor McCabe stated the commission usually meet when there is a need for a policeman or if there is an infraction with the police. Committee members discussed utilizing the commission more and having more meetings. Mr. Nichols stated the Pennsylvania State Associations of Boroughs (PSAB) membership offers free training for Borough officials, commissions, and boards.

### **Police Department**

- Good Morning Yeadon was held on 4/20 with special guest Police Chaplain Toni Truehart.
- The portable speed bumps are set up throughout high traffic areas.
- There are no major issues to report.
- Denise Stinson asked if the portable speed bumps can be placed near Providence Road between Industrial Park Drive and Paul Drive. Chief Paparo answered the police perform periodic traffic enforcement in that area. He stated the police may use funding for additional signage.
- Councilor Roadcloud, Chief Paparo, and Mr. Stokes discussed junked vehicles reported and resolutions.
- Ms. Footman asked about extension cords being used in the common alleys for other neighbors to use and if it is a code violation. Chief Paparo answered no unless it impedes the movement of traffic and gave an example of using the extension cord for an electric weed trimmer. Mr. Stokes stated Mr. Wormley assessed the situation and the property owner was using the extension cord to work on a vehicle that is being converted into a business.
- Ms. Footman and Chief Paparo discussed a reported a noise complaint for a house party at the intersection of Rundale Avenue and Serrill Avenue.
- Mr. Abrams stated the Borough should be looking into placing permanent speed bumps and not using Police funds for speed bumps. Also, he asked for an update about the surveillance cameras. Chief Paparo stated the contractor came out last week to do a final review of the 37 locations to install cameras and will send a final report soon.
- Mr. Abrams asked if the Borough would get license plate readers for the police department. Chief Paparo stated he is receiving a free reader and awaiting its arrival.

### **Code Enforcement Department**

- The new code enforcement officers have started and are learning the process.
- The Makemie Senior Apartments should be getting approval from the County Planning Commission to start work next month.
- Councilor Roadcloud stated a resident that has a wheelchair bound child contacted her and said there are not enough ADA compliant curbs/sidewalks throughout the Borough. Mr. Nichols answered NDI will be applying for a grant and it is required that the curbs/sidewalks be ADA compliant.

**Meeting ended at approximately 11:21 a.m.**

**Councilor McCabe ended the meeting with a prayer.**

Respectfully submitted by Management