



## Public Safety Committee Meeting June 26, 2021

**Members Present:** Mayor Rohan Hepkins, Police Chief Anthony Paparo, Fire Chief Michael Diienzo, Code Enforcement Director/Emergency Management Coordinator/Fire Marshal Rufus Stokes, Public Works Director Jeffery Wilkinson, Thomas Abrams, Denise Stinson, and Antoinette Truehart

**Absent:** Councilor Delores McCabe, Tax Collector Julianne James, Councilor Liana Roadcloud Solicitor Charles M. Gibbs, Finance Director Nafis Nichols

**Other Attendees:** Mrs. Bradford

**The Public Safety Committee Meeting was held via Zoom and started at approximately 9:35 a.m.**

**Antoinette Truehart opened the meeting with a prayer.**

### **Mayor's Report**

- The Virtual Flag Day Event included commentary from Vice President Frances, Recreation Coordinator Roy Hunter, Mayor Hepkins, and Thomas Kerr the grandson of the Yeadon's Flag Day founder William Kerr. Also, pictures and videos of previous flag day events were displayed on the Borough's website.
- The Pa. Senate passed a bill to let local police use radar for speed enforcement.
- The Mayor read from an article in the Spirit Newsletter about a resident group that monitors police transparency. The non-profit group is called the Delco Municipal Police Accountability Coalition (Delco MPAC) which provide information about best policing practices, current news, and comparative data. According their recent data from Delco MPAC, Yeadon Borough Police Department ranks #8 on the transparency scorecard. Ms. Truehart stated that continuing to wear masks is a good idea based on the news reporting the spread of different COVID-19 variants.
- The Mayor stated that the Borough Hall will continue to follow the mask mandate.
- The Mayor discussed the COVID-19 vaccination clinics held within the Borough. He encourages everyone to get vaccinated.
- The surveillance cameras will be installed in high crime areas throughout Yeadon which will help mitigate crime. Recently, the contractor has conducted a radio site survey. Chief Paparo added that the police department received an award in the amount of \$45,000 from Senator Williams office to cover 3 years of service for mobile cameras.
- The Mayor, Chief Paparo, and Ms. Stinson discussed safety issues at Yeadon Community Park (YCP) and noise violations at the Nile Swim Club.

## **Police Department**

- The police department applied for a \$75,000 grant which will help pay for the accreditation program.
- The police department applied for funding to help hire more police officers.
- A grant application was submitted for YCP and the L.O.V.E. Community Garden which will help with improvements. So far, the L.O.V.E. Community Garden received approximately \$3,500 in donations. Chief Paparo thanked the Public Works Department for their assistance.
- Carl Graham was appointed as a member of the Civil Service Commission.
- Chief Paparo thanked the clergy for their efforts in helping people in the community.

## **Fire Department**

- The fire department had 100 fire responses and 280 ambulance responses in May.
- The fire department needs fire volunteers and will be applying to grants that will assist with hiring firefighters.
- The Mayor, Chief Diienno, and Mr. Thomas discussed the closings of local fire houses and the decrease in volunteers over the years.

## **Public Works Department**

- Mr. Wilkinson discussed illegal dumping and street sweeping. He stated that he sends the staff to check the gateways every morning for illegal dumping.

## **Code Enforcement Department**

- The code department patrols the area, writes citations, and enforce the Borough code. Mr. Stokes discussed how property owners communicate with the code officers when they are investigating properties.

**Comments** - The Mayor read a comment in the chat section from Mrs. Bradford. She asked if the Borough meeting information can be added earlier in advance to the website. The Mayor responded that the Borough could do a better job utilizing communication resources.

**Meeting ended at approximately 10:20 a.m.**

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

Respectfully submitted by Management