

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2020, 9:00 a.m.
Via Zoom

Committee Responsibilities – Traffic, Parking Ordinances, Law Enforcement Grants, Assemblages/Parades, Diversity, Emergency Management and Fire Department.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Public Safety Minutes – 08/18/2020.
2. Parking Sub-Committee Meeting on 08/17/2020 was cancelled.
3. Discussion on limiting the number of residential parking permits issued.
4. Setting the Parking Sub-Committee agenda.

OLD BUSINESS:

5. International Fire Code Ordinance at legal (fire alarms for rental properties bypassing third party monitoring).
6. Parking Sub-Committee Agenda.
 - a. Changing North and South side of East 2nd Street parking enforcement days, (Monday – Saturday).
 - b. Using PANGO in municipal lots.
 - c. Selling permits that weren't purchased to people without leases.
 - d. Using PANGO in the 700 block of East 4th Street.
 - e. PANGO for zone permits.
 - f. Daily, Weekly, Monthly rates for meters.

NEXT MEETING DATE: October 20, 2020

Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 18, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.
Via Zoom

Chairperson William Kreisher called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m., present were Council members Bonnie Crawford, James Garman and Vince DeMelfi; Town Manager/Secretary/Treasurer Lisa Dooley; Chief of Police Roger Van Loan; Fire Chief Scott McBride; Director of Code Enforcement Ken Roberts; and Law Enforcement Administrative Assistant Randi Fetterman. Also, in attendance were Geisinger Athletic Trainers Gina Marotta and Roxanna, Code Enforcement Officer Kyle Bauman and public citizens Jared Harris and Dan Knorr.

Discussion took place regarding the Tactical Athlete Injury Care and Prevention Program. Geisinger Athletic Trainers Gina Marotta and Roxanna gave a presentation. There is no cost to the Town and no contracts. The program includes a general wellness check, with 6-month, 12-month and 18-month follow ups. Officers could go to Geisinger to voluntarily participate, or be given workouts to follow from home. While the program is targeted for tactical employees, such as Police and Fire Department, they could be a point of contact for other Town employees. Police officers can opt in or opt out individually. Employees could start the program immediately; R. Van Loan would just contact them to set up dates and times. Only cost would be if a department wanted a permanent specialized trainer. The only action needed at this time is verbal consent.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by B. Crawford, and voted on unanimously, the Committee recommends Council approve the Tactical Athlete Injury Care and Prevention Program.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman and voted on unanimously, the Committee approved the July 21, 2020 minutes with no additions or corrections.

The Committee reviewed the Parking Sub-Committee minutes from July 20, 2020.

Discussion took place regarding fire alarm monitoring systems in multi-unit dwellings. K. Roberts advised that by 2023, the International Fire Code will be a requirement across the state. Depending on wording, the code could apply to 4 or more units, or 10 or more units. W. Kreisher noted his concerns regarding the cost to property owners and false alarms increasing. L. Dooley advised that International Fire Code would have to be adopted, and additional ordinances would be required to accompany the IFC in order to inspect. W. Kreisher questioned whether the Town could opt out of certain requirements of the International Fire Code.

On a motion by B. Crawford, seconded by J. Garman, and voted on 3 'yes' votes and 1 'no' vote (V. DeMelfi), the Committee authorizes further investigation into adopting the International Fire Code.

Discussion took place regarding the Parking Sub-Committee agenda. R. Van Loan advised that the parking office is currently researching an option for allowing zone permits to be purchased via e-mail. No additional items were added to the agenda.

Discussion took place regarding the adoption of an ordinance requiring individuals to wear masks within the Town's jurisdiction and limiting the number of individuals that are allowed to congregate in one area. R. Van Loan advised that there are regulations set forth by Governor Wolf's office. The police and government officials need to be cautious that we would not infringe on individual rights. R. Van Loan also advised there is a Disorderly Gathering Ordinance that covers potential harm to the health, safety or wellbeing of individuals, and would be appropriate to apply in instances where indoor gatherings over 25 persons is occurring. R. Van Loan informed the Committee that intrusively stopping individuals walking through Town for not wearing a mask

would increase the probability of having a use of force situation. W. Kreisher stated he does not think the police need to be stopping individuals from peacefully walking down a street. J. Garman does not believe an ordinance will change this behavior. B. Crawford stated she does not believe it is fair to demonize the students and asked if there is anything the landlord can do to limit the number of individuals in a residence. R. Van Loan advised landlords do have the ability to limit the number of individuals in a residence through their lease.

On a motion by J. Garman, seconded by V. DeMelfi, and voted on unanimously, the Committee adjourned the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Notes taken by R. Fetterman, B. Erlston & L. Dooley.