

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
1:30 P.M.

The following persons were present for the meeting: Chairperson Donna Isenberg, Committee members Jim Bair and John Gradwell, President Dave Quarry, Councilmember James Decker, Sr., Code Enforcement Officer Scott Shaffer, Chief Rufus Brenneman, Mayor DeeDee Brown, Maintenance Supt. Tom Yarnell, Assistant Borough Secretary Melody J. Parsons, and Borough Manager William W. Wheeler.

Visitors: See attached sign-in sheet.

Chairperson Isenberg called the meeting to order.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were not any public comments at this time.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT: Code Enforcement Officer Shaffer asked if there were any questions on his monthly Code Enforcement Officer's Report. Mr. Shaffer reported that he added 3 new properties to the list of property maintenance deficiencies. Mr. Shaffer passed around pictures of the Africa Property, 1419 Moore Street, which is being demolished. The property was actually worse than they thought. Chairperson Isenberg asked Mr. Shaffer why G&R are not working every day. Mr. Shaffer reported that G&R are so busy that they are having a hard time getting dumpsters to haul stuff out. Councilperson Bair asked Mr. Shaffer which property he thought was the next serious property we have in the borough. Mr. Shaffer stated that would be 1318 Washington Street. She has a 2 x2 hole in her roof. The shingles are falling off.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief Brenneman asked if anyone had any questions on the Chief of Police report. He reviewed his report with the committee.

Councilperson Bair asked what the status is of the computers in the vehicles. Chief Brenneman stated that the port needs to be changed to be able to scan driver's license. The Dept. has been using the computers and it has been working out well.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Brown did not have a report at this time. She asked if the sign at the exit of the 6th Street Parking indicating no right turn has been put up. Manager Wheeler stated that it has.

OLD BUSINESS:

WATER TREATMENT PLANT PERIMETER SECURITY: Manager Wheeler reported that he has received 1 bid and will be meeting with 2 more contractors within the week.

OFFICE OF AGING, 10TH STREET-HANDICAPPED PARKING (one hour only): Chairperson Isenberg stated that the one hour only sticker has not been placed on the sign.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK LIGHTS-4th and PENN STREETS, 8TH AND PENN STREETS waiting for information from PennPower: Manager Wheeler reported he spoke with Dave from Tell Power. He was going to get back to him. He has not. Manager Wheeler will call him again.

BLOCK PARTY- 15TH Street, United Methodist Church, Sat. 8-28-2016: Chairperson Isenberg stated there was a question regarding contact with the Borough to borrow barricades. This has been resolved.

ORLADY WALL REPAIR-UPDATE: Manager Wheeler stated it is going slow. We have not been able to find all of the capstones.

NEW BUSINESS:

SCHOOL ZONE SIGNS HUNTINGDON HIGH SCHOOL/HUNTINGDON MIDDLE SCHOOL: Chairperson Isenberg stated we have discussed signs for the school district. She doesn't have any new information on this. She will forward the information she received to Mr. Foster. Mayor Brown stated that she was the one who asked to start this issue for some signs due to the complaints on speeding that are received. She stated that if Council feels it is not their job then just to drop it. The School District did not initiate this.

WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL: Chairperson Isenberg stated that specifically at the Warms Springs Avenue Project the signs were not appropriately set in the evenings. Chairperson Isenberg asked Manager Wheeler if we follow the state's regulations. Manager Wheeler stated that we do and that he gave the information to Supt. Yarnell.

SCHOOL ZONE PARKING SPACES (FURTHER CLARIFICATION), BETWEEN 24TH AND 25TH ON CASSIDY AVE.: Manager Wheeler reported that he has not received any updated information from Mr. Foster yet.

REVIEW OF MCCLAY AVENUE STOP SIGN REQUEST: Chairperson Isenberg stated that Mr. Foster, Huntingdon School District, asked that we review the McClay Avenue stop sign. He would like a stop sign put there. Council will take a look at the area.

OTHER ISSUES:

SAFETY GLASSES-PRESCRIPTION: Dean Harris commented that he never sees crews using hats. He doesn't think you need to buy safety glasses for everyone. Chairperson Isenberg asked the committee if they wanted to wait to make a decision after negotiations. It was agreed.

TRENCH BOX-UPDATE: Manager Wheeler reported the trench box is due in this week.

Councilperson Bair mentioned that he would like to see a big "slow down" put under the arrow at 9th and Moore Streets. He thinks we have decreased the speeding in this area, but it could use a little more signage. Councilperson Decker suggested that we need a blinking light at that intersection.

Councilman Gradwell asked that when the construction is done on Warm Springs Avenue that the double yellow and the fog lines between Lions Back and 23rd Street be painted. They are faded.

Councilman Gradwell reported that there are areas in the downtown that are not user-friendly for wheelchairs. One is at the entrance to the 1st National Bank Drive-In.

Councilman Gradwell reported that the speed has been curbed quite well on Warm Springs Avenue.

Councilperson Decker asked Code Enforcement Officer to give an update on the Hess Property. Mr. Shaffer reported that as of June 9th the attorney for the estate took the house back to try to sell it. The last communication he had with the attorney is that he was going to try to get a quick sell approved through the judicial system with the County. Attorney Ody stated that there is not any money with the property. Scott said he wrote a letter to the attorney making him aware of the weed violations. He has not received a response.

Councilperson Decker stated that he thinks Council needs to have more control over the portable pedestrian signs that people put out. If there is not a state policy to

mandate these, then we need to look at it from a Borough's standpoint on how we can control them. He plans to pursue this further.

Chief Brenneman reported that he talked to Manager Wheeler about the no parking signs on College Avenue at the lower end for Friday morning. There are signs on the upper end but none towards Shadyside. The officers feel they should not ticket that area because the signs are up in the area by the dorms.

Jennifer Clark reported that College students are riding bicycles on the sidewalks and riding against traffic. Chief Brenneman will get in contract with the college.

Manager Wheeler reported that through the winter months Juniata College is going to start to replace the entrance to Good Hall. One of the options they were looking at is eliminating parking on the Founders Hall side of Moore Street. They will have a construction lane on the other side and still have 2 lanes of traffic. The problem is that this will create an issue if we need to do snow removal in this area.

Manager Wheeler reported that Juniata College will be breaking ground on the ISMA Building in the next couple weeks.

Adjournment

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BY: Melody Parsons
Assistant Borough Secretary