**Huntingdon Borough Public Safety Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, July 14, 2020**

The Huntingdon Borough Public Safety Committee Meeting was held in the Borough Council Room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

Committee Members present were Chairman James Bair, Councilman David Quarry and Councilman David Fortson.

Members present were President Johnathan Hyde, Councilwomen Nicole Houck, Mayor David Wessels, Code Enforcement Officer James Morris, Chief of Police Jeff Buckley, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Guest present were Jennifer Clark, Gary Cramer, Jesse Leonard (Juniata College) and Timothy Launtz (Juniata College).

Chairman James Bair called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Chairman James Bair recognized the guest present and asked for their comments.

Jesse Leonard introduced Timothy Launtz as the new Public Safety Officer at Juniata College.

Jesse Leonard said we are preparing to bring students back to Juniata College and wanted to update Borough Council on the procedures and protocol.

Jesse Leonard said the college will be testing the students for COVID-19 and talked about the isolation and is looking for guidance. Jesse said they will be testing 300 students per day and J Cell will have the results within 3 hours.

Jesse Leonard spoke on hot spots being isolated, students being spaced out and quarantine housing.

Chris Stevens asked Jesse Leonard when tested where does the results go to? Jesse Leonard said the results will be in the students home address and County.

Jesse Leonard said there will be 1700 total students tested.

James Bair asked Jesse Leonard about how they would quarantine? Jesse Leonard said if the results are positive, they will be placed in quarantine.

James Bair asked if there was a curfew? Jesse said the students will be restricted to travel and not to leave Huntingdon. Jesse said no guest will be allowed. Jesse said they will have badges and if they leave, their badge will go green.

Jesse Leonard said there will be one-way traffic, spaces shut down and students spread out.

Jesse Leonard said that students can take classes on line. Jesse said that all are required to have a safety plan.

Mayor David Wessels asked Jesse Leonard about the J Cell testing. Jesse Leonard said that a percent of the student population will be tested weekly.

James Bair asked if they are required to wear masks? Jesse Leonard said that all are required to wear masks.

Jesse Leonard said the students are only allowed to have 2 people to help move in.

James Bair asked Jesse Leonard about commuters. Jesse Leonard said there is a high risk pool that will be tested.

Jesse Leonard said the students will only have access to their own halls and there will be no visiting other halls.

James Bair asked about the sports? Jesse Leonard said there will be no football, but is waiting on guidance from the NCAA on other sports.

Jesse Leonard said at the 18th & Moore Street cross walk, the curb is too high for a wheelchair to get up on. This will be looked at.

Jesse Leonard spoke about the parking places on Moore Street and talked about the curbing being painted yellow. Jesse said this has not been done in the last two years. James Bair said the college can paint this.

Jesse Leonard spoke on having the parking places eliminated from 17th Street to 19th Street. It was said there is no residential parking on these blocks. James Bair said he had no problem of eliminating from 18th Street to 19th Street, but from 17th Street, this might be a problem. Travis Gutshall, Jim Morris, Jeff Buckley and Chris Stevens will look at this. James Bair said that he would take what recommendation they would suggest.

Chris Stevens updated Jesse Leonard and Tim Launtz on the Solar Street Lights.

Jesse Leonard and Tim Launtz left the meeting.

Jennifer Clark said she wanted to thank James Morris on the problem at the Ellinger House.

Jennifer Clark talked about a property on Washington Street that had garbage out in plastic bags and the smell from this.

Jennifer Clark asked if the residents could see the K-9 dog out doing the day for kids and people to see. Jennifer said that some residents helped pay for the K-9.

Jeff Buckley said that Andy Young works nights and the K-9 X is used for other functions. Jeff said he would have to pay overtime to have him in doing the day. Jeff said that he was thankful for the support of the residents.

Jeff Buckley said that due to COVID-19, it is hard to have events. Jeff said that if the school is allowed to have an event, he could possibly have K-9 X there for the kids to see.

Chairman James Bair proceeded to the Code Enforcement Officers report.

James Morris went over his report.

James Bair asked James Morris what is the completion date for Westminster Place? James Morris said the plan is to have completed in 9 months.

James Bair asked when does Westminster Place pay for their EDU’s? Chris Stevens said they pay up front and this is already done.

Chairman James Bair proceeded to the Chief of Police report.

Jeff Buckley said he would like to resume the parking enforcement and said a good date would be Wednesday, July 22, 2020. Jeff said this is the beginning of the pay period so he would bring back Jamie Brown. The committee was in agreement.

Jeff Buckley spoke on the Civil Service Commission and said the interest is not there. Jeff said he has called the training commission and asked if there was any money available. The commission said they just started this back up.

Jeff Buckley said the training for the schooling is $5,000.00, 919 hours and 25 weeks.

Jeff Buckley said the commission would reimburse 75% of the schooling and 40% of the salary. Jeff said the borough’s cost would be $1,250.00. Jeff said we would have to pay our share of the meals.

Jeff Buckley said he would like to remove the requirement of being Act 120 certified because people cannot afford to pay for the training their selves.

Jeff Buckley said we could pay them a reduced salary while going to the training. Jeff said that he would like to have conversations before advertising for a position.

The Public Safety Committee was in agreement to eliminate the Act 120 from the officers test.

Jeff Buckley said he would get in touch with the Civil Service Commission to change the requirement.

**Executive Session was called for Personnel issues at 4:08 PM.**

**Executive Session ended at 4:12 PM.**

Chairman James Bair proceeded to the Mayors report.

Mayor David Wessels said he is still waiting on the Park Mobile Solution for opening the parking and enforcement. James Bair said to give this a month or two.

Chairman James Bair proceeded to the Fire Departments report.

James Bair said there were 30 calls this month with 2 active fires. James said year to date calls was 161.

James Bair said at the end of June the fire department was down about $40,000.00 and their gun drawing is down about 50%.

Mayor David Wessels asked about the convention. James Bair said this has been cancelled and we have to wait another 4 years till we get it again.

Nicole Houck came on line at 4:15 PM.

Chairman James Bair proceeded to Old Business.

Nothing was reported under Old Business.

Chairman James Bair proceeded to New Business.

Chris Stevens spoke on the 911 desks he received from Blair County. He said he is looking at having some for sale. He asked if he could start to remodel. The committee said yes.

Chris Stevens said that years ago, we had a person work with Jeff Buckley and doing secretary work. Chris said that she was never replace.

Chris Stevens said that he would like to create a secretaries position to have a person help James Morris, Jeff Buckley with evidence stuff and office. Chris said that Jamie Brown was doing this when we were not ticketing and everything was kept up.

Sean Steeg spoke on the pandemic of wearing masks and this was by the Governors orders.

Nicole Houck said an option would be to continue to do video conferences.

The Public Safety Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:26 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary