**Huntingdon Borough Public Safety Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 11, 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 Jim Bair, Councilman David Quarry and Councilman David Fortson.

Members present were President Johnathan Hyde, Councilman David Quarry, Councilman David Fortson, Councilman Jim Bair, Mayor David Wessels, Code Enforcement Officer Jim Morris, Chief of Police Jeff Buckley, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Guest present were Jennifer Clark and Gary Cramer.

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

Gary Cramer asked who was responsible for the weeds on Cold Springs Road?

Chris Stevens said we are responsible and we will take care of this.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Code Enforcement Officers report.

Jim Morris went over his report that was given to Borough Council.

Jim Morris updated everyone on the Blair House and Huntingdon Electric Buildings. Jim said that with the Blair House they are waiting on quotes/estimates from various construction companies to come in. Jim said there are Civil Law suits involved also. Jim said with Huntingdon Electric an attorney had placed an injunction on this and this will be 30 to 45 days for this to hear anything.

Jim Morris said a Zoning Hearing board meeting will be held on September 10, 2020 to determine if the law offices of Roberta Binder Heath, LLC will be permitted to provide legal services at 1506 Warm Springs Avenue.

Jim Morris said the 930 Moore Street property has been purchased and is in the process of converting a section of the building into a daycare center.

Jim Morris said that Mutual Benefit Property of 400 Washington Street has been approved to convert the 4th floor into offices.

Chris Stevens, Jeff Buckley and Jim Morris were up at Juniata College to look at the parking places they wanted to eliminate. It was agreed to allow this but to have signs put up for Church parking only on Sunday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Chris Stevens said he just received an email from PennDOT on opening Penn Street.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Chief of Police report.

Jeff Buckley reported that the Civil Service Commission had met on July 29th, to go over the rules and regulations. Jeff said that this meeting was to make changes to the by-laws by eliminating being Act 120 certified, a physical ability test to be given following medical clearance as described by the MPOETC guidelines and all four sections of the MPOETC test must be passed at the 30th percentile. Jeff said that the state at one time had reimbursed for the training and then this was stopped. Jeff said they are again reimbursing 75% of training expense and will pay 40% of the salary.

Jeff Buckley said he would like to have the Public Safety Committee make a recommendation to approve the changes to the by-laws and to adopt this. These would include eliminating being Act 120 certified, a physical ability test to be given following medical clearance as described by the MPOETC guidelines and all four section of the MPOETC test must be passed at the 30th percentile.

**The Public Safety Committee recommends a motion to approve the changes made to the Civil Service By-laws and to adopt this. These would include eliminating being Act 120 certified, a physical ability test to be given following medical clearance as described by the MPOETC guidelines and all four section of the MPOETC test must be passed at the 30th percentile.**

Jeff Buckley said that all the officers have their fire arms qualifications done and passed.

Jeff Buckley said that he will be receiving the School Resource Officers contract from the school here soon. Jeff said in this contract they will pay for 90 days the full rate and if COVID is still here, then there will be some changes on what they would pay.

Jeff Buckley said the school district will also be looking at and make changes to the bus stops.

Chris Stevens said the reason the Civil Service Commission met was back in the days, the state reimbursed 75% of the training and you had plenty of people applying and this was stopped due to not having money in this fund. Chris said when they stopped reimbursing, Act 120 was placed in the by-laws where the person applying had to pay the full price and you do not have the interest since they have to pay. Chris said that now the state has money in the fund and the training is $5,000.00, where the state will reimburse $3,750.00 of the training. Chris said they will also reimburse 40% of wages.

Jeff Buckley said he does not see a problem in the rank and file to reduce the wages while going to training.

Jeff Buckley said he would have a written test on Saturday, and if they passed, they will do the physical fitness test.

Jeff Buckley said that after the Borough Council approves the changes, he will advertise the application process.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Mayor’s report.

Mayor David Wessels said that Juniata College has a new Public Safety Officer and he would like to meet him.

Mayor David Wessels said he would like to see a stop sign at 12th & Washington Street.

Mayor David Wessels said he signed a petition on municipalities being able to use radar.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Fire Companies report.

Jim Bair reported there were 34 calls last month and the year to date is 195, which is down compared to last year at this time.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to Old Business.

Jim Bair said that he would like to place a speed control unit at 12th & Washington Street and to have PennDOT do a survey to see if a stop sign can be placed there.

Jim Bair said he would like to have the contact person on the phone to talk about the Knox Box System.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to New Business.

Chris Stevens said we are doing some remodeling in the dispatch center and he is preparing for Huntingdon Borough to be the regional dispatch unit. Chris spoke on Fulton County and Bedford County dispatch units wanting out.

After no further business, the Public Safety Committee meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary