**Huntingdon Borough Public Safety Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020**

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

Committee members present were Chairman Jim Bair and David Fortson.

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

Guest present were Gary Cramer and Dean Harris.

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

Gary Cramer said the sidewalk at 9th & Moore Street, there are weeds growing up in-between the sidewalks.

Jim Morris said that this intersection is a PennDOT bridge replacement and this will be taken care of. Jim said the whole intersection will be revamped.

Dean Harris said about the cats running loose in his area and said the Code Enforcement Officer should be sending the owners of these a letter. There was a discussion on this.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Code Enforcement Officers report.

Jim Morris asked if there were any questions on his report.

Jim Bair asked how the Rental Agreements were coming along?

Jim Morris said he had 18 letters out and he has some catching up to do. Jim said that he is getting them here and there but said this is a slow process.

Johnathan Hyde said he was asked about the rental fees and if they have changed.

Jim Morris said no, and that the renewal process will be down to a few pages.

Jim Morris said he will be looking at the ordinance and will be making recommendations for a change to the ordinance.

Jim Bair asked about the CDBG Sidewalk program.

Chris Stevens said the bid was awarded last Friday at the County Planning Office and Yenter’s had received the bid.

Chris Stevens said that GHD had reviewed the bids and submitted their review back to the County.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Chief of Police report.

Jeff Buckley said we had 21 applications returned to us, one calling and backed out for medical reasons, and on the day of the testing 18 showed up instead of 20. Out of the 18 that showed, 5 failed the written test and 2 failed the physical exam. Jeff said that 11 people took the oral exams. Jeff said that we are preparing background checks on the top 3, and then the Civil Service Commission will need to certify them, and then he can present them to Borough Council. Jeff said that one is already Act 120 and one is in the Academy already.

Jim Bair asked Jeff Buckley if they thinks they will be ready to bring to Borough Council by next month’s meeting?

Jeff Buckley said he is sure, they would be ready for next month’s meeting but is not sure he could have them sooner.

Jeff Buckley asked if they wanted him to present them at the Public Safety Committee meeting or at the Borough Council meeting?

David Fortson asked Jeff Buckley if he is pleased with the results?

Jeff Buckley said yes.

Jim Bair said the last time this was done was at the Public Safety Committee meeting and they did interviews.

Jim Bair asked who wanted to be a part of the interviews?

Jim Bair said that he wants on this and thinks that the Chief of Police, Mayor, Borough Manager and whoever else would like to be a part of this can.

Jim Bair asked about the school and COVID?

Jeff Buckley said on Monday they were closed due to having one case. Jeff said they did their cleaning and now they are back full time.

Jeff Buckley said there will be a school board meeting this Wednesday night to discuss this.

Chris Stevens reported that two of the officers vests were to run out the end of November, so he is going to have them measured and said they would need one for the new officer.

Jeff Buckley said this is an off year for the Department of Justice to apply for grants for vests.

David Fortson asked about how much were these vests?

Jeff Buckley said they run between $900.00 to $1,200.00 each.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Mayor’s report.

Mayor David Wessels said he is finishing up the video footage tomorrow and will have a rough draft by the end of the week or the first of the week for council to review. David said this will be on Trick or Treat and the Holiday’s.

Mayor David Wessels said that everything else is on hold at this time.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Borough Manager’s report.

Chris Stevens said that everything presented so far was covered very well.

Chris Stevens said that they have a phone call with the owner of the Blair House tomorrow. Chris said that we should see something next week.

Chris Stevens said that Solicitor Richard Wilson and PennDOT have been talking.

Chris Stevens said that Solicitor Richard Wilson has prepared a letter to the Blair House.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to the Fire Companies report.

Jim Bair said they have received 31 calls in September and the Year-to-Date calls is 262.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to Old Business.

Jim Bair said the speed control unit on Washington Street is working well and slowing vehicles down.

Jim Bair said that he would like to see us get a couple more of these.

Jim Bair said that the Knox Box is an important issue but has no more information on this.

Chairman Jim Bair proceeded to New Business.

Sean Steeg brought up the Trump Train that went thru Huntingdon, and traffic violations and asked what action if any, council could take.

There was a very lengthy discussion on this matter.

The Public Safety Committee meeting was adjourned at 3:57.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary