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

Members present were President James Bair, Vice-President David Fortson, Councilman Robert Jackson, Councilman David Quarry, Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown, Councilman Terry Green, Councilwoman Jennifer Powell, Mayor Thomas Yoder, Chief of Police Charles Streightiff, Code Enforcement Officer James Morris, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Guest present were Jennifer Clark, Gary Cramer, Dean Harris, Joe Thompson, James Grissinger and Greg Gutshall.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown recognized the guest present and ask for their comments.

Jennifer Clark said she was going to mention the 1514 Moore Street house but has already talked to the Borough Manager.

Gary Cramer said at Stone Church Drive and Moore Street, there are 2 dead trees that need to come down. This will be taken care of.

Gary Cramer said there was a box truck that was backed into a property on the turn at Moore Street, and there were no cones or person to direct traffic. Gary said he was able to get stopped but if someone would have went into the other lane there would have been a head on collision. Gary said he had called the police.

Chief Streightiff said that he had already talked to Tim Launtz at Juniata College about this.

Dean Harris said on Thursday at 11:00 PM he had opened his windows to save electricity from running the air conditioner and said that all he could smell was smoke and creosote. Dean said this need to stop. Dean said this fire smoldered all night.

Code Enforcement Officer James Morris said you should have called the police.

Dean Harris said you can only burn certain things and said we need to change the ordinance.

Dean Harris was ask if he had gone to them and confronted them about this?

Greg Gutshall said that someone from council should go and act as a mediator.

Greg Gutshall was there to ask about the junk cars in the alley and wanted an update.

Chief Streightiff said they were contacted to remove them.

Greg Gutshall ask about the traffic control and cars being hit.

Chief Streightiff said that cars are wider now and the police department has been out on traffic control. Chief said that if a hit and run was reported then the officers will try to get information and then report back to you.

Greg Gutshall said that maybe you need to install speed bumps or make Washington Street one-lane.

Greg Gutshall ask for an update on the wood burning stoves.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown ask the Code Enforcement Officer to gather information on this.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on the Code Enforcement Officer’s report.

James Morris went over his report with the committee and ask if there were any questions?

James Morris spoke about a chicken at 1406 Washington Street that a neighbor is complaining about. James said that he is going to send them a 30 days’ notice to get rid of it.

James Morris said he had sent pictures of a dead tree and he would like permission to issue a citation and to have the Maintenance Department take this down.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said we would need to get a 60’ lift to take these trees down.

James Morris said the Knox Boxes are in place.

President James Bair said this has helped at the Southside school.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on the Chief of Police report.

Charles Streightiff went over his report with the committee and said that when he gets the figures from the District Justices Office he will update everyone.

Charles Streightiff said that this will be the 5th year for National Night out and the biggest with 40 participants.

Charles Streightiff said he would like to commend Detective Brent Kagarise on the Traxler investigation.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown ask the Chief to do a letter of accommodation and present this at the Borough Council meeting to Brent Kagarise.

Charles Streightiff said he is working with Magloclen to host free training conferences and partner with Juniata College.

Charles Streightiff said that Officer Young will be going to the AG’s office and has received a letter from Officer Stetchock to reassign X to him. Charles said that Officer Stetchock will be moved to train with X.

Charles Streightiff said that Officer Pheasant is to be release from FTO and will be certified to patrol on his own, the first week of September.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on the Mayor’s report.

Thomas Yoder had nothing to report on.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on the Borough Manager’s report.

Chris Stevens had nothing to report on.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on the Fire Companies report.

James Grissinger reported the fire company had 30 calls in July.

James Grissinger read the expenses for the month of July and a total of $50,295.07.

James Grissinger reported the Annual Gun Drawing held on July 23, 2022, there were 39,500 tickets sold and there were approximately 1,200 people in attendance.

James Grissinger gave an update on the new truck.

James Grissinger said there were no issues with the July 3rd Fireworks.

James Grissinger said that members have been working on the bingo booth at fairgrounds most of the month.

James Grissinger reported that a grant thru FEMA allowed them to place new battery powered hydraulic tools on Rescue 65 and the old ones were placed on Engine 65-2.

President James Bair said he wanted to commend the guys at this year’s convention and said they had placed 1st on several events.

Chairwomen Dee Dee Brown called on Old Business.

There was nothing reported under Old Business.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on New Business.

There was nothing reported under New Business.

Executive Session was not called for.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on Any Other Business.

Chief Charles Streightiff said he wanted to commend Jennifer Powell on the social media items she had done for the National Night Out.

After no further business, the Public Safety Committee meeting ended at 4:43 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary