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, Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown, Councilman Terry Green, Councilwoman Jennifer Powell, Mayor Thomas Yoder, Chief of Police Charles Streightiff, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Guest present were Jennifer Clark, Gary Cramer, Joe Thompson and Josh Crownover.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

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

There were no comments made by the guest present.

Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown ask if there were any question on the Code Enforcement Officer’s report.

Councilman Robert Jackson ask about the tickets he issued and when they were paid.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens said this is just like the parking tickets where they can have a hearing and then are able to make payment arrangements.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on the Fire Companies report.

Captain Josh Crownover presented the September 2022 report to the committee.

Josh Crownover said they had a total of 24 incidents this month with 14 of these being in the borough.

Josh Crownover said the expenses amounted to $91,031.52 which $59,534.90 was grant money and $31,496.62 was non-grant money.

Josh Crownover spoke on the events they had, and where they helped with the Matt Baker Cancer Foundation gun raffle on September 10th, which made approximately $7,000.00, Hoagie sell for SCI Huntingdon employee’s which made approximately $2,200.00

Josh Crownover gave an update on their new truck and said the committee is currently in Florida performing the final inspection.

Josh Crownover said they have one party interesting in looking at our current truck and hopefully will make an offer.

Josh Crownover said they are in the early stages, but are planning on an open house in April or May and will have more information for council next month.

Josh Crownover said they are looking at local organization to help with purchasing smoke detectors and MCO deters.

President James Bair said to ask the insurance companies also since they have grants they give.

Vice-President David Fortson said to check with the clubs also.

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

Charles Streightiff went over his reports with the committee.

Charles Streightiff said with the technology grant they have received from PCCD, they are looking at purchasing camera’s.

Charles Streightiff said we have received a bullet proof vest grant and they are ordered.

Charles Streightiff said he is submitting a PCCD grant for Local Law Enforcement in which Huntingdon has received $1,000,000.00. Charles said there are 5 categories and he has 4 of these so far.

Charles Streightiff said he is applying for cameras for the parks, Borough Building, purchase of a drone, incentives for police officers for retention and recruitment, purchase a display for recruitment, radio’s and tablets.

Charles Streightiff spoke on the Octoberfest and said there was a group there that travels and tried to stir up things.

Charles Streightiff said he commends the community 100% for what they did.

**Linda DeArmitt arrived at 4:13 PM.**

Linda DeArmitt ask if we had an ordinance to handle this.

Charles Streightiff said this is free speech.

Charles Streightiff reported on the Crisis Intervention and said that Brendon McGrath will be helping with the mental health calls.

Charles Streightiff said Brendon is not a borough employee and is paid thru the federal grant.

Charles Streightiff said Brendon is a former military personnel and the Department of Corrections.

President James Bair ask if he has any authority.

Charles Streightiff said he does not have any authority, that he will talk to the person and if things don’t go well, he will back away.

Charles Streightiff said that he is also in Lewistown and their calls have dropped around 90 percent.

Charles Streightiff said he will be introducing Brendon at the Borough Council meeting this month.

Charles Streightiff said he will be going to IUP for mock interviews.

Charles Streightiff said that Officer Dorian Conrad will be graduating on November 18th but the Mayor will be swearing him in at the November 15th Borough Council meeting.

Charles Streightiff said the Homecoming Parade will be this Friday starting at 5:30 PM.

Charles Streightiff said he will be doing evaluations on Officer Pheasant and Officer Benson.

Charles Streightiff spoke on Officer Stetchock being at Shallow Creek Kennels with K9 X.

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

Thomas Yoder had nothing new to report.

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

Chris Stevens said he already talked about the Traffic Signal Modernization in another committee meeting and hopefully we will have the controllers here soon and installed.

Chris Stevens said we have received the 2022 State Aid allocation supporting the Volunteer Fire Relief Association in the amount of $32,547.52 and this has been sent to them, with the report being filed with the Auditor General’s Office.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on Old Business.

Councilman Robert Jackson spoke on two properties where the sidewalk is raised and the houses don’t have outside lights to see. He said that someone is going to get hurt and wanted to know why they were not receiving a letter to fix these. Robert said he has discussed this with the Code Enforcement Officer James Morris.

Councilman Robert Jackson said that letters need to be sent to these properties to get their sidewalk fixed.

Vice-President David Fortson said there are a lot of sidewalks that need addressed.

Linda DeArmitt thanked Dave Fortson, Chris Stevens and Charles Streightiff for their help at the Octoberfest and said there were approximately 120 people. Linda said there were 15 vendors that did not show up due to the rain.

Chairwoman Dee Dee Brown called on New Business.

There was nothing reported under New Business.

Executive Session was not called for.

After no further business, the Public Safety Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:42 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King
Borough Secretary