

Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 2, 2022 6:00 p.m.

Present: Committee Chair Joe Frederick and Council Member Larry Browne. Also in attendance were CBRPD Police Chief Karl Knott, Fire Marshal Scott Fleischer, Borough Manager John Davis, and Mayor Noni West.

The **Minutes** of the July, September, and October meetings could not be approved without a quorum.

West Street Traffic Study. John reviewed the recent speed complaints and, based on speed studies, traffic calming steps would be warranted. A resident suggested the possibility of adding paint to the parking spots and/or a four-way stop at West and Union Streets. Phil Ehlinger had suggested pavement markings to visually narrow the travel lane or add a bike lane on each side of the street. Both of these options could decrease speeds. Those members in attendance agreed with continuing this discussion with members of the neighborhood. John will invite them to the next meeting.

Handicap Parking Permit Request. A resident spoke on her parking concerns in connection to her health and asked the Committee for help in coming up with a resolution for her. John reviewed all of the parking options for the area and suggested the possibility of adding a handicap parking spot on State Street. The group also discussed the possibility of a parking waiver of some sort for those with handicapped placards. The resident would prefer to purchase a 10-hour parking permit, but have parking available closer to her home. John will discuss the issue of exempting those with handicapped parking placards or other possibilities with the Borough Solicitor. He'll also let the Parking Department manager know that this is in discussion.

Union Street Permit Parking Study. A resident brought their parking concern to John regarding Union Street between Shewell and Hamilton Streets. After some counts provided by CBRPD as well as research John did on his own, it is clear this area does qualify for permit parking. John recommended to do a direct notification to the residents of those blocks and invite them to the next meeting to discuss the options.

Public Events. Chief Knott reviewed the upcoming Hanukkah in the Borough event, which is planned for December 18.

CBEMS Update. John reviewed the most recent details regarding the financial situation, which showed that the need for additional public funding has receded. There will be upcoming meetings to discuss the CBEMS budget going forward, with the possibility of increasing funding in 2025.

CERT Team Update. Larry had nothing new to report.

CBRPC Report: Mayor West spoke on the recent Commission meeting, where the budget was approved with the note that uniform funds for additional officers not be used until New Britain Borough is prepared to make any further decisions on their budget. They are planning to return to the Commission in April.

Old/New Business. Mayor West asked for details on the expansion of the Winterfest Parade and if there are any limits on participants or concern for the event becoming too large. Chief Knott noted they did discuss this with Kris and Paul Boger and will use this year as a trial run. He trusts them to make decisions on allowing groups in the parade with Santa.

Adjourned: 7:20 PM