

Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 11, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Present: Committee Members Joe Frederick, Wendy Margolis, and Larry Browne, as well as Borough Manager John Davis, Mayor Ron Strouse, Council Member Noni West, Fire Marshal Scott Fleischer, and CBRPD Chief Karl Knott.

The **Minutes** of the July 2021 meeting were approved as submitted. (Margolis-Browne)

Lacey Avenue Permit Parking Request

John reviewed the traffic study as completed by CBRPD officers which showed that the area did qualify for residential permit parking.

On a motion from Wendy, second by Larry, the Committee voted unanimously to draft an ordinance creating a residential permit parking zone with a 5PM to 9AM parking restriction for nonresidents and forward to council.

Central Bucks Regional Police Commission Update

Mayor Strouse discussed the upcoming budget, the early preparation of which is dictated by the intermunicipal agreement. The suggestion, as is standard, will be to turn down the first draft and send it back for revisions.

New/Old Business

Several residents attended the meeting to discuss their neighbor at 474 North Street, who runs commercial lawn mower(s) for hours at any time of the early morning throughout the day or evening. They are requesting an ordinance to include lawn equipment be moving and only in use on grass, in an effort to keep the noise to a minimum. Because the issue stems from a specific neighbor with mental health issues, which CBRPD is attempting to address, an ordinance change would probably not fix the issue. It could be a decibel concern at certain times although noise ordinance citations are complicated and difficult to enforce. Another possible way to address this is through current ordinances regarding operating a business out of a residential property without zoning permission. The neighbors also discussed the business trailers often parked on the street, at times not attached to a vehicle as required and are at times concerned for their safety. Chief Knott reminded them to always call the police department if an officer is needed. John will look into assisting via the zoning department in order to help the neighborhood without making the situation worse as there is a delicate balance necessary.

Also, the same neighbors are concerned with speeds on North Street. CBRPD will monitor.

Larry and Scott discussed their work on developing a Community Support Team. Doylestown Township is currently opening cooling centers to assist residents in the extreme heat, which is a perfect example of where this new support team would be beneficial. They have spoken with Dave Cell at the Central Bucks School District and is excited to get involved, along with the Bucks County Intermediate Unit. They have also talked with Chuck Pressler of Central Bucks Ambulance, who is also interested as it would take some pressure off that organization in times of need. The next step is to reach out to local organizations and churches to enlist their help and work out the general operating procedures. Scott and Larry will produce an outline prior to the first meeting. Most training will be done online through FEMA. This is an existing program throughout the country, so all details are available online.

Joe Frederick asked about the recent increase in COVID cases and how it will affect the upcoming bike race and art show. He would like the vendors to be masked if unvaccinated and/or be Covid tested. Mayor Strouse noted an issue with that requirement, as vendors have a contract of sorts and that that was not included previously. This would be a new requirement and is a complicated matter. Things are changing quickly related to the pandemic; many events are planned for the coming months and there needs to be consistency. Masking changes were discussed.

Larry brought to the Committee a recent Doylestown Fire Company discussion regarding hiring paid firefighters; the oversight and control of such a project is something to be discussed and how the municipalities included will be affected. This is something that will take time to introduce and discuss but the conversation seems about to start.

Adjourned: 8:10 PM