

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Carlisle Police Department Headquarters
December 2, 2015
7:30 a.m.

In Attendance

Don Grell	Lt. Latshaw	Jeff Snyder
Robin Guido	Det. Sgt. Freedman	Mayor Scott
Perry Heath	Matt Candland	Bobby Pine
Matt Madden	Debra Figueroa	Nathan Harig
Dawn Flower	Bruce Koziar	Sgt. Himes
Linda Ceconello	Mark Malarich	Greg Deivert
Connie Biers	Chris Varner	Wayne Ulsh
Dan Thumma	Mel Beaver	Will Guilliams
Donna Thumma	Betty Julias	Tawanda Hunter
Laura Beaver	Laurel Belding	Dorothy Lauderbaugh
Sherrie Minnich	Dennis Minnich	

1. Chairman Don Grell called the December Public Safety Committee Meeting to order.
2. Approve September and November Minutes.

The Minutes were approved and submitted with one minor correction to the September Minutes. Correction made by Recording Secretary.

3. Around The Table

Fire - Chief Snyder reported 46 fire calls for the month of November, which is normal. Two training programs, one with the Carlisle Area School District and one with Youth Christian Ministries.

EMS - Bobby Pine reported 848 calls, which is normal and continuing with the Ambulance Fund Raiser.

Fire Police – no report.

Dickinson DPS – Sgt. Himes reported that Dec. 11 will be the last day for students; Dec. 19 will be finals and Jan. 25, the students will return for the Spring term.

Elm Street Manager – Mr. Varner directed his statement to the neighborhood associations.

- East Side Neighborhood - Sherrie Minnich reported that there will be a meeting on Dec. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Alliance Church and at 7 p.m. there will be an Open/Public Forum.
- SOSO - no report.
- My Brother's Keeper - Councilmember Ceconello stated that on Dec. 10 at 1 p.m., Career Link and the Bar Association teamed up to help people with expungements and pardons for employment and housing.

4. Recent Shootings in the Borough

Lt. Latshaw reported that Sgt. Fones retired on November 30 after 31 years of service. The police department is in the process of hiring new officers to replace Sgt. Fones and Officer Gibson who left in the Spring to attend the PSP Academy.

Lt. Latshaw spoke on the recent shootings in the Borough. He stated that there have been extra patrols in those areas of the shootings and there have been no other shootings. There were 4 shootings in 7 days. The police have made arrests. A lot of efforts have gone into investigating these shootings by residents calling in tips; the media and newspaper and Crime Watch. The police have followed up on all the leads they have been given by individuals. The armed robberies in the East Side of town have resulted in arrests. The Lieutenant stated that police continue interviewing and have "persons of interest" in these robberies.

The police department believes that the shootings incidents are between 2 groups – one from Carlisle and one from out of town.

The police department is working diligently on these arrests which involve drug activity, illegal firearms.

The police department is being assisted by Probation, State Parole, the Pennsylvania State Police, Cumberland County Sheriff's Dept., and the U. S. Marshalls.

Two arrests were made before Thanksgiving, all 3 have made bail.

The police department's extra patrols include 2 men in a car performing traffic stops, patrolling the streets to reduce the threat of violence and to keep citizens and police safe.

A resident of N. Hanover Street asked what citizens can do if they suspect drug activity in their neighborhood. Lt. Latshaw stated to call the police anytime a resident believes he/she has seen suspicious activity whether they feel it is of little or no importance.

Lt. Latshaw spoke about the South West area of the Borough burglaries. This area does not generally have a lot of crime. Most of these burglaries are occurring at residences where the

perpetrator is looking in from doors and windows, enters the house and steals purses which are in plain view that are placed on the countertops or on tables then exits the house. This is a very dangerous situation for the resident and criminal.

Other break-ins are from vehicles. Thieves are taking items from vehicles like tablets, phones, etc. Lt. Latshaw is warning residents not to keep valuables in their vehicles.

Lt. Latshaw also reported that the police department has received private videos from residents who have installed their own cameras.

Mark Malarich stated that the Carlisle Area School District will be sending out letters to residents in reference to them installing fiber optics along the school route beginning January of 2016 through July 2016. The installers should be wearing their company's logo for identification purposes along with vehicles with the company's name on it.

A question was asked whether these shooters live in the Borough and Lt. Latshaw stated yes, but he was not at liberty to go beyond that due to the on-going investigation. He also stated that these are not random shootings. So far one person was shot, he received a flesh wound, was treated at the hospital and was released and no one has been killed.

Another resident asked if police are to identify themselves when knocking on doors early in the morning when they are looking for a suspect or trying to inform a resident of something. Lt. Latshaw said yes and the resident said that on this particular night, the officer did not identify himself, so she did not open the door. Lt. Latshaw informed the resident that he will ask officers to identify themselves when knocking on doors late at night.

5. Replacement of No Parking Zone with a Metered Parking Space – 28 W. Louthier St.

Mark Malarich stated that businesses asked that this space/sign be eliminated and replaced with a metered parking space. This item does not need an ordinance change. It was agreed to remove the sign.

6. Reducing Speed Limit from 35 mph to 25 mph – Meeting House Road

Mark Malarich stated that all roads in urban areas by state law are set at 35 mph. An analysis was to be done a year ago, but due to Mr. Malarich just being hired late last year, this wasn't done. He will ask Council to authorize this analysis at the December Council meeting. Councilmember Ceconello stated she believes part of this road is in North Middleton Twp. and asked Mr. Malarich to contact them and he will do so.

7. Old Business

a. Carlisle House driveway onto W. South Street

Councilmember Ceconello stated that the business owners and residents in that area are very pleased and believe this has been an immense improvement on the parking situation. Mr. Carlisle will purchase a mirror and the Borough will install it.

b. Vacate 150 ft. Segment of Oak Avenue from C Street to Fifth Avenue

Dan and Donna Thumma, residents of C Street are asking the Borough to vacate 150 ft. segment for them to install a gate. They stated that trash is being thrown on their property and youngsters are using this area to walk to a neighbor's swimming pool.

This action could take between 4-6 months due to having Council contact the Solicitor who will need to make changes to the Ordinance, then there needs to be a Public Hearing, letters need to be sent to the residents in that area and finally a Public Notice which takes several weeks.

Councilmember Guido stated she drove by that area 3 times and noticed the same vehicle parked in that area. The Thumma's stated that this was their vehicle, which they don't generally park there, but on those 3 times, they were unloading something from their barn and unloading a deer. Councilmember Guido stated she is not in favor of this request.

It was requested that police patrol this particular area. Another option was to form a neighborhood association group for that area.

Council President Heath stated he is asking a recommendation from staff on this issue. Need to canvas the neighbors and they need compelling reasons for this change.

8. New Business

No new business.

9. Public Comment

No public comment.

With no other business to report, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Lorence
Administrative Assistant