

**BOROUGH OF CARROLL VALLEY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, January 11, 2010 – 7 PM
BOROUGH OFFICE**

MINUTES

Chairman Ron Harris called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Those in attendance were as follows:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Present:

Ron Harris, Chairman
Neal Abrams
Robert Reca
Andrew Aldrich
Brian Wheeler
Dale Buffington
Anthony Golden
Dan Patton
Tim Jacobson

Absent:

No One

BOROUGH OFFICIALS:

Present:

Gayle R. Marthers, Borough Secretary
Dave Hazlett, Borough Manager
Chief Richard Hileman

Absent:

No One

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR

R. Harris asked for nominations for Chairman:

***D. Patton moved, seconded by A. Aldrich to nominate Ronald Harris for Committee Chair. Motion carried naming Ronald Harris Chairman of the Committee.

R. Harris asked for nominations for Co-Chairman:

***D. Patton moved, seconded by A. Aldrich to nominate Neal Abrams for Committee Co-Chairman. R. Harris nominated Daniel Patton; who denied the nomination. Motion carried naming Neal Abrams Co-Chairman of the Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2009 MEETING

The Minutes of the aforementioned meeting were distributed for approval.

***N. Abrams moved, seconded by R. Reca to approve the Minutes as submitted. Motion carried with A. Golden and D. Patton abstaining due to not having attended the meeting.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mr. John VanVolkenburgh, 4 Mile Trail, Carroll Valley asked to be heard. Mr. VanVolkenburgh introduced a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Carroll Valley Police Department. He asked that the committee give thought to what the funds spent to operate a police department could provide to the tax payers if there were no police. Questioned response times, cost of equipment, and the expenditure of the DARE program. Results of the 2009 Borough Resident Survey were outlined where dissatisfaction of the department's response time, speed enforcement and presence were highlighted. In conclusion, Mr. VanVolkenburgh asked the members to consider staffing, contracting services and determining the Borough's return on investment for the department. Members thanked Mr. VanVolkenburgh his time and the courage of his convictions and offered the following comments:

- Asked that the number and types of calls be solicited from neighboring jurisdictions for comparison to Carroll Valley's.
- Voiced lack of support and confidence in State Police for the Borough citing their lack of manpower and commitment to patrolling. The lack of officers has caused the State Police force into an investigative resource versus a deterrent to crime.
- Voiced concerns regarding the increase in gang membership and gang activity in the surrounding communities of Adams and Franklin Counties.

- Mr. VanVolkenburgh was asked to provide a list of potential educational topics to R. Harris for consideration at a future Safety Committee meeting.
- The Members were asked to review the copies of the PowerPoint presentation and forward questions, comments or concerns to R. Harris for discussion at the March 2010 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Speed Control- Chief Hileman provided a brief PowerPoint presentation outlining a previous traffic study that was conducted on a Borough Road. The Chief then suggested that the posted speed limits in the Borough were artificially lowered to keep the speed to the desired speed of 35MPH. After lengthy discussion, the issue of speeding within the Borough was reduced to the question of if there is a problem and if so, how, when and where is the enforcement? In a 5-4 show of hands, the Committee opted to perform studies of the perceived problem areas and review the results at the next meeting. Until then, the department was asked to increase their presence in the Borough.

Community Education Program- R. Harris reviewed suggested topics that he had received since this subject was discussed at the December meeting. After discussion, the members agreed to begin the Program in February 2010 with disaster preparedness and follow that with basic CPR skills and use of automatic defibrillators in April or May. The program would continue throughout 2010 on a quarterly basis. A. Aldrich volunteered to work with FREMA to prepare for the February Program and D. Patton offered to coordinate the April/May topic. Members were reminded to check the Borough pavilion schedule before planning to hold the program in that facility. Other topics of consideration include fire prevention, understanding traffic laws, web/internet safety and protecting against identity theft.

Police Department Report- R. Harris introduced a new format to the monthly Police Report that includes a monthly total and a running total for the year. As discussed at the last meeting, this report would be given to the Council during the Mayor's report and then posted to the Borough website for public information. Suggestions to the format included not using abbreviations and the addition of calls to commercial properties versus residential homes. Chief Hileman will work with R. Harris to have the report ready for the February Borough Council Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Aldrich shared that he is a member of a subcommittee for the Adams County Volunteer Emergency Services Association (ACVESA). The group is preparing a PowerPoint presentation for municipalities that will show the financial impact on each community if the volunteer fire/EMS provider serving the area were to close. Mr. Aldrich asked if the presentation should be made to this Committee or to the Council. Consensus of the Members was to have the presentation given to both. A tentative date of April 12, 2010 was set to present to a special meeting of the Public Safety and then present to Council at the regular meeting on April 13, 2010.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No one addressed the Committee at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on March 8, 2010.

***D. Patton moved, seconded by B. Wheeler to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle R. Marthers, Borough Secretary