

MINUTES OF THE HANOVER BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
October 4, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Chairman Roland convened the meeting of the Hanover Borough Council Public Safety Committee at 6:07 PM, Monday, October 4, 2021 in the Hanover Municipal Building, 44 Frederick Street, Hanover, PA.

Attendance: Present were Committee Members Funk, Roland and Mayor Whitman; Council Member Hegberg, Staff Members Fire Chief Clousher, Secretary Felix, Public Works Director Grimm, and Police Chief Martin.

Public Comment:

Mr. Jan Crystal, 425 George Street: Mr. Crystal was present to discuss ongoing speeding complaints on the first block of George Street north of Grant Drive. He asked for speed “humps” to slow traffic and enforcement. Chief Martin reiterated that the average speed data recorded on this section of George Street indicated most are not eligible for citation; as they are within 10 mph of the 25 mph speed limit. In addition, there is not adequate police staffing to support an increased police presence here for speed enforcement. At this time, municipalities are not able to utilize RADAR in Pennsylvania, so it takes 2 officers to set up lines and a chase car.; unless pending legislation is passed within the State legislature. The Public Works Department recently painted lines in the area to help deter speeding.

Mr. Tony Juiffre, 423 George Street: Mr. Juiffre confirmed Mr. Crystal’s report of speeding vehicles on this area of George Street.

It was moved by Mrs. Funk, seconded by Mayor Whitman to move the approval of a traffic study on the Washington Avenue and George Street intersection to determine if a 4-way stop is warranted, to the Council Workshop agenda for consideration. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes: It was moved by Mrs. Funk, seconded by Mayor Whitman to approve the minutes of August 2, 2021. Motion carried.

Traffic Study – York and Walnut: Chief Martin stated Dr. Singer submitted concerns about accidents, due to crossing traffic and left turns from Walnut Street onto York Street when traffic is stacked up. Data indicates a high number of reported accidents.

The Committee discussed a similar situation at the intersection Baltimore Street and Walnut Street.

It was moved by Mrs. Funk, seconded by Mayor Whitman to move the approval of traffic studies for York Street and Walnut Street; and Baltimore Street and Walnut Street to the Workshop agenda for consideration, with the intention to place both items on the same

ordinance for approval, to prohibit left turns and cross traffic, if the traffic studies warrant same. Motion carried.

Truck Traffic on Grant Drive and Clearview Road: Chairman Roland received complaints of truck traffic on Grant Drive and Clearview Road. In the past Chief Martin has hand-delivered notices to the trucking entities who routinely haul from businesses on Kindig Lane and Clearview Road to help deter truckers from this residential area. There could also be issues with GPS not recognizing the approved truck routes. Public Works Director Grimm indicated in the past the department installed 2 “No Trucks” signs in the area, but they have since been removed. Mr. Grimm will have the 2 signs re-installed, noting the removal of the signs could be due to recent construction in the area.

Brake Retarder Restriction: Public Works Director Grimm presented a letter of request to PennDOT for prohibition of brake retarders. He noted it is the first step in the process to develop an ordinance for same. It was moved by Mrs. Funk, seconded by Mayor Whitman to move the approval of the letter to PennDOT for request of prohibition of brake retarders, to the Council Workshop Agenda for consideration. Motion carried.

Public Noise Abatement – Mr. Hegberg requested the Committee consider a recommendation to develop a noise abatement ordinance for the Borough. He provided sample text from other municipal ordinances, noting there are two types– one based on actual “decibel” levels, and another based on “audible” noise levels. He stated York and Lancaster have audible noise level ordinances, and would like the Borough to implement a similar ordinance. Mr. Hegberg stated he would like to forward the development of a noise abatement ordinance to the Planning Commission.

Chief Martin noted the difficulty of enforcement of a noise abatement ordinance within the parameters of the state traffic code.

It was moved by Mrs. Funk, seconded by Mayor Whitman to move the discussion on noise abatement to the Council Workshop agenda. Motion carried.

Adjournment

It was moved by Mrs. Funk, seconded by Mayor Whitman to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,


Dorothy C. Felix, Borough Secretary