A regular meeting of the Community Development and Public Safety Committee was held on Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at the Kutztown Municipal Building, 45 Railroad Street.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mr. George Kusterer, Chairperson. Members present were Mr. George Kusterer, Dr. Derek Mace, and Mr. Fred Engelhardt. Also present: Mr. Craig Summers, Chief of Police; Mr. James Schlegel, Mayor; Mr. Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager; Mr. Paul Mastrogiavanni, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer for the Borough of Kutztown; and Ms. Carolann Moody, Recording Secretary. Public Attendance: Ms. Sandy Green and Ms. Alli Fuller, representing Kutztown Community Partnership; Mr. Todd Evans, Deputy Chief, representing Kutztown Fire & Rescue; Mr. John Schmoyer, representing the Kutztown Day Committee; and, Mr. Rodney Freeman representing Kutztown Area Transport Service.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:
Mr. John Schmoyer, representing the Kutztown Day Committee questioned the Community Development/Public Safety Committee if a permit was needed for the fireworks scheduled for Kutztown Day on August 7, 2022. Mr. Schmoyer confirmed that there is a certificate of insurance for Kutztown Day and the fireworks company will also a certificate of liability listing the Borough of Kutztown as an additional insured. There was a brief discussion regarding the status of the Fireworks Ordinance. Following the discussion, Dr. Mace mentioned that at this time a permit was not needed, however, in the future a permit may be required.

KUTZTOWN FIRE & RESCUE:
Mr. Todd Evans, Deputy Chief of Kutztown Fire & Rescue mentioned that in June they responded to 40 calls and year to date, they have responded to 310 calls.

Following a brief discussion regarding “Boot Drive” fundraisers for Kutztown Fire & Rescue, it was agreed that in the future Mr. Evans will submit a request letter to the Community Development/Public Safety Committee for approval. This Committee will then forward the request to Borough Council for final approval.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:
Mr. George Kusterer mentioned that due to Chief Russo’s move from the area, he has requested that Mr. Russo submit a letter of resignation to Mr. Gabriel Khalife. Mr. Kusterer stated that he would like to recommend Mr. Josh Young, who is the Assistant Fire Chief for Kutztown Fire & Rescue as well as the Emergency Management Coordinator for Greenwich Township, for the Borough of Kutztown Emergency Management Coordinator position, adding that he feels Mr. Young will be an asset to the Borough.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES:
Members reviewed the May 10, 2022 Committee meeting minutes. Motion by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Engelhardt to approve the May 10, 2022 minutes as written. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
PLANNING AND ZONING:
Mr. Paul Mastrogiovanni mentioned that there was nothing to report under Planning and Zoning.

Mayor Schlegel mentioned that the property at 235 Grimley Street has recently been sold and questioned Mr. Mastrogiovanni if he was aware what was being considered for that property. Mr. Engelhardt stated that the new owners submitted preliminary plans for six semi-detached, two story, three bedrooms, 2.5 bath homes. He added that the owners plan to attend the Planning Commission meeting in August to present sketch plans.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:
- DCR Report – May 2022
- DCR Report – June 2022
Committee members reviewed the DCR Reports for May and June. There were no questions or comments.

Mr. Kusterer mentioned that the hedges on Bieber Alley between Noble Street and Trexler Avenue are overgrown, and vehicles are having a tough time getting through. Mr. Mastrogiovanni stated that he will address that issue.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:
- Monthly Report – May 2022
- Monthly Report – June 2022
Committee members reviewed the Community Development reports for May and June. There were no questions or comments.

KCP/MAIN STREET:
Ms. Green stated that Kutztown Community Partnership received a grant through the American Rescue Plan of $270,000. The goal of the grant is to purchase and upgrade the Strand Theatre. She added that they did submit for and addition grant, which is gaming funds, for $773,000.

Ms. Green mentioned that the Wells Fargo murals are secure in Schaeffer Auditorium in storage until a place is found for them. She added that Mr. Aaron Mueller would like to see them displayed in the Strand Theatre, if KCP moves forward with the plans.

Dr. Mace stated that he was made aware that the Main Street Inn was sold to the Folino’s, adding that the new name is Vintner’s Inn.

Ms. Green mentioned that there is a new business coming to Kutztown called the Wicked Botanist, which specializes in house plants. This will be their second location as they are also located in Bethlehem.

Dr. Mace stated that the mural on the Kutztown Fire & Rescue building is complete, and the dedication is scheduled for September 17, 2022.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:
- Incidents Reported – Year to Date 2022
Chief Summers reviewed the report. There were no questions or comments.
Arrest Report – Year to Date 2022
Chief Summers reviewed the report. There were no questions or comments.

Reportable Crimes – May 2022
Chief Summers reviewed the report. There were no questions or comments.

Reportable Crimes – June 2022
Chief Summers reviewed the report. There were no questions or comments.

SOP/Code of Discipline - Revised
Chief Summers reviewed the changes to the SOP with committee members. Motion by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Engelhardt to recommend Borough Council approve the changes to the Code of Discipline Standard Operating Procedure. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Budget Report – 2nd Quarter 2022
Chief Summers reviewed the report. There were no questions or comments.

MAYOR’S REPORT:
- Review and discuss complaint from property owner Alan Kenny

There was a brief discussion regarding the email that was received from Alan Kenny regarding a property he previously owned in the Borough of Kutztown.

Ms. Green suggested that Mr. Mastrogiovanni monitor that property as there have been issues in the past.

OFF AGENDA:
Mr. Rodney Freeman mentioned that he was aware that the Police Department is going to put a 2012 Expedition up for sale. He requested that the vehicle be donated to Kutztown Area Transport Service to replace the vehicle they currently have. Mr. Khalife mentioned that he will speak with Mr. Keith Mooney, Borough Solicitor. He added that he does not think they vehicle can be donated as Kutztown Area Transport Service is a for profit organization.

Mr. Freeman questioned where they are in the discussion of the situation that EMS is in these days and how are the issues going to be resolved. Mr. Kusterer mentioned that the issues have not been discussed at this committee, adding that the issues should be discussed at a Borough Council meeting. Mr. Khalife suggested that Mr. Freeman produce a plan of what they expect that can be presented at a Borough Council meeting. Following a lengthy discussion, Dr. Mace requested Mr. Freeman research models that have been successful for other organizations and present them to Borough Council for review and discussion.

Mr. Engelhardt mentioned that the Planning Commission sent a tobacco/e-cigarette retailers draft ordinance to Mr. Mooney for review. The ordinance is for these retailers to be identified as permitted uses in the industrial zone.

ADJOURNMENT:
With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Engelhardt to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.