

**BOROUGH OF KUTZTOWN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF July 11, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Community Development and Public Safety Committee was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at the Kutztown Municipal Building, 45 Railroad Street.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mr. George Kusterer, Chairperson. Member present: Dr. Derek Mace. Mr. Fred Engelhardt was absent. Also present: Mr. Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager, Mr. Joshua Young, Code Enforcement Officer; Mr. James Schlegel, Mayor; Mr. P Michael Clery, Acting Chief of Police and Ms. Andrea Rahn, Recording Secretary. Public Attendance: Ms. Sandy Green representing Kutztown Community Partnership; Ms. Allison Fuller and Mr. Rodney Freeman, representing Kutztown Area Transport Service; Mr. Todd Evans representing Kutztown Fire & Rescue; and Ms. Mindy Wagaman, Mr. Tim Seyler, Ms. Janet Wallen, Ms. Ashley Wallen and Mr. Eric Boyer, Borough residents.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Ms. Wallen expressed her concerns to the Committee regarding the excessive truck noise at Briar Cliff located on College Blvd. She stated that the street has become a truck stop due to residents who reside in Briar Cliff and drive tractor trailer trucks. The trucks are loud, run at all hours at night and it disturbs the residents. They have tried to speak with the property manager, but stated their phone calls are ignored. After a lengthy conversation, it was recommended for Ms. Wallen to contact the trucking companies with her concerns.

Mr. Kusterer thanked Ms. Wallen for bringing this matter to the attention of the Committee members.

KUTZTOWN FIRE & RESCUE:

Chief Todd Evans mentioned that Kutztown Fire & Rescue responded to 55 calls for the month of June and 21 of those calls were in the Borough of Kutztown. Total calls to date are 315.

Chief Evans also thanked Borough employee Nathan Keller for his help at the foundry fire and noted they received a thank you from a Foundry representative stating that the damage would have been more extensive if not for their help and fast response.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Mr. Joshua Young reviewed with Committee members the several types of fire hydrant markings available.

Mr. Young mentioned there is still no insight into the NIMS 300 from the county.

KUTZTOWN AREA TRANSPORT SERVICE:

Mr. Rodney Freeman mentioned that KATS responded to 165 calls in June, 62 of which were in the Borough of Kutztown. Total calls to date are 1000.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES:

Members reviewed the June 15, 2023, Committee meeting minutes. Motion by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Kusterer to approve the June 15, 2023, minutes as written. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING:

Mr. Young mentioned that the wording on the agenda is incorrect. The Zoning Officer, not the Planning Commission, has denied the zoning request for 330 West Walnut Street.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:**● DCR Report – June 2023**

Mr. Young reviewed the DCR report with Committee members. There were no questions or comments.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**● Monthly Report – June 2023**

Mr. Young reviewed the Monthly Report with Committee members. There were no questions or comments.

● Review Ordinances for Fire, Police and EMS lock box.

Mr. Young reviewed with Committee members the need for lock boxes. After a discussion, the Committee advised Mr. Young to start by identifying some of the problem places and to review these alarm calls with them.

Mr. Kusterer commented that the Committee will review this item at a later date, upon recommendation from the Fire Chief and Marshall.

KCP/MAIN STREET:

Ms. Green updated Committee members regarding the former Strand Theatre.

POLICE**● Incidents Reported – Year to Date 2023**

Acting Chief Clery reviewed the report with Committee members. There were no other questions or comments.

● Arrest Report – Year to Date 2023

Acting Chief Clery reviewed the report with Committee members. There were no other questions or comments.

● Reportable Crimes – June 2023

Acting Chief Clery reviewed the report with Committee members. There were no other questions or comments.

Acting Chief Clery stated that the new Officer is starting tomorrow, and they are still looking into hiring.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Schlegel updated the Committee members on the Folk Festival and thanked the Police Department, Fire Company, and Public Works Department for their time in welcoming the visitors from Altrip, Germany.

OFF AGENDA

There was nothing to discuss Off Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Kusterer to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:18 PM.