

**BOROUGH OF KUTZTOWN
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2023**

Following the Kutztown Borough Council workshop on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 7:00 pm to discuss the noise ordinance a regular meeting of the Community Development and Public Safety Committee was held in the Kutztown Train Station, 110 Railroad Street.

The meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m. by Mr. George Kusterer, Chairperson. Members present were: Mr. George Kusterer, Mr. Fred Engelhardt and Dr. Derek Mace. Also present: Mr. P Michael Clery, Acting Chief of Police; Mr. James Schlegel, Mayor; Mr. Joshua Young, Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager, and Ms. Carolann Bartik, Recording Secretary. Public Attendance: Mr. Ed Seyer, Borough Council Member; Ms. Allison Fuller and Mr. Rodney Freeman, representing Kutztown Area Transport Service; Ms. Sandy Green representing Kutztown Community Partnership; and Ms. Mindy Wagaman, Mr. Tim Seyler, Mr. Joel Seidel, and Mr. Eric Boyer, Borough residents.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no comments from the public.

KUTZTOWN FIRE & RESCUE:

Deputy Chief Joshua Young mentioned that Kutztown Fire & Rescue responded to 53 calls for the month of May and 13 of those calls were in the Borough of Kutztown. Total calls to date are 268.

Deputy Chief Young gave Committee members an update on the new apparatus.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Mr. Joshua Young mentioned that he is waiting for Berks County Department of Emergency Services to publicly advertise the NIMS 300.

KUTZTOWN AREA TRANSPORT SERVICE:

Mr. Rodney Freeman mentioned that KATS responded to 174 calls in May, 79 of which were in the Borough of Kutztown. Total calls to date are 842.

Mr. Freeman updated Committee members on the EMT program that they are working on with Kutztown University.

REVIEW AND ACCEPT THE MINUTES:

Members reviewed the May 9, 2023, Committee meeting minutes. Motion by Mr. Engelhardt and seconded by Dr. Mace to approve the May 9, 2023, minutes as written. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

PLANNING AND ZONING:

Mr. Young reviewed with Committee members the plans that have been submitted for 330 W Walnut Street.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

- **DCR Report – May 2023**

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

- **Review and discuss Fireworks Display Permit Application**

Mr. Gabriel Khalife reviewed the Fireworks Display Permit Application with Committee members. Following a brief discussion, it was decided that Ms. Gina Wiand and Mr. Joshua Young would review the Fireworks Ordinance to verify that the information in the Ordinance and in the Application are the same.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- **Monthly Report – May 2023**

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

- **Review and discuss the proposed ordinance to adopt the 2021 version of the International Property Maintenance Code**

Mr. Young reviewed the proposed ordinance with Committee members. Following a brief discussion, motion by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Engelhardt to recommend Borough Council approve the proposed ordinance to adopt the 2021 version of the International Property Maintenance Code. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

KCP/MAIN STREET:

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

Ms. Green mentioned that she will be retiring at the end of the year and Kutztown Community Partnership has begun interviewing candidates for her replacement.

Ms. Green updated Committee members regarding the Wall that Heals, which will be coming to the Borough of Kutztown on September 19, 2023.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- **Incidents Reported – Year to Date 2023**

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

- **Arrest Report – Year to Date 2023**

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

- **Reportable Crimes – May 2023**

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

Acting Chief Clery mentioned that the Police Department is preparing for the Folk Festival.

Acting Chief Clery updated Committee members on the status of the candidate for the Patrol Officer Position.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Schlegel updated Committee members on the Sister City Program with Altrip which started approximately three years ago. He added that the program started with the International Pen Pal Program at the Kutztown Community Library.

OFF AGENDA:

Deputy Chief Young mentioned that the Housing Event/Parade for the new apparatus at Kutztown Fire & Rescue is scheduled for May 4, 2024. There is a committee working on details and Deputy Chief Young will keep this Committee updated.

Mr. Joel Seidel addressed the Committee regarding a ½ acre of land at the end of Seem Drive by the water basin/creek. There was a brief discussion regarding this property.

There was nothing else to discuss Off Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Engelhardt and seconded by Dr. Mace to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.