

Minutes of Civil Service Meeting

Location: GPCC

Date: Dec. 15, 2021

Time: 6:30 PM

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Simpson

Present: Members: Sheldon Simpson, Joseph Subbio, Karen Mabry, and Paulette Jones. Ron Trask (by Phone),
A quorum was present.

Solicitor: Thomas Speers

Lt. Jeff O'Brien and Chief Myrsiades

Chairperson Simpson opened the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The first Matter of business was approval of the Minutes from the Oct. 2021 meeting. The approval passed unanimously.

Next, the Commission was advised about the promotion of Officer Kyle Lowery from Third Class to Second Class Patrol Officer. The Chief stated that Officer Lowery has a big heart and brings credit to the Department. A motion for approval was made by Mr. Subbio and seconded by Ms. Mabry. Approval was unanimous.

Next, the status of the upcoming Entry Level Police Test was discussed. In order to make the Jan. 15th availability of the Middle School for the test date, the Commission was asked to ratify the advertisement and approve the Test Date for Jan. 15, 2022. A discussion followed about providing the Study Guide for the test. Following that discussion the matter was tabled until the next test. Approval of the Resolution to authorize the Test for Jan 15, and other matters associated with the Test was unanimous.

Chief Myrsiades updated the Commission on the state of the Department. He and his staff studied the call data from pre pandemic to the year of 2019. There has been significant commercial growth in the Township. Six out of the Eight hotels in the township were built within the last 2 decades. Two of these hotels are used for housing witnesses by the Attorney General's Office as well as the Chester County, Montgomery County and Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. One Hotel is used by Montgomery County for housing homeless individuals due to drug dependency and mental illness. Apartments and townhomes have increased the Township population by about 1500 residents. Police calls to hotels increased by 115% over the past 5 years. These types of calls have changed, now there are shootings, stabbings, prostitution, sexual assault and drug related matters. Mandated programs require more manpower. Traffic details reduce crimes of opportunity such as burglary. However, to conduct these details by overtime is not a viable option. The Chief's request to Council includes one new Officer for the Highway Patrol Unit, one new Officer assigned to the Power Shift and, a new civilian records clerk. These additions to the Department have been approved by Council for next year's budget. The Chief noted a new trend of people using low priced hotels as residences, and an increase in crime related to that.

No members of the public attended the meeting. The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. All voted in favor.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Speers, Solicitor