

Minutes
Public Safety Commission
Town of Boonsboro
April 20, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.
Boonsboro Town Hall Annex
21 North Main Street
Boonsboro, MD

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Kim LaBrush

Present: Kim LaBrush, Ena Martin, Bo Quinn, Kyle O'Connor – Boonsboro Volunteer Fire Department Representative (BVFD), Jeff “Jay” Metz – Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Representative, BPD Chief Morgan, Marilee Kerns - Council Liaison

Absent: Harry Nogle, Greg Seymour, Brian Smith, Rick Stevens

Council Members in Attendance: Terri Hollingshead, Eric Kitchen, Ray Hanson

Guests: Alvin Gross

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the March 9, 2023 meeting were emailed to the committee for review. The minutes were approved by a motion from Kyle O'Connor, second by Jay Metz and vote by commission.

Special Demonstration – Stop the Bleed – presented by Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Volunteer Jay Metz (with the training kit funded by the Public Safety Commission):

Commission Members and Council Members participated in the demonstration and discussion on the Stop the Bleed training. The committee will provide information for the next quarterly newsletter on where to purchase kits to carry. The commission recommends kits be carried in town vehicles and on site at town locations. Liaison Kerns will bring up at town meeting and have staff check to see if safety manager has already handled.

[Rescue Essentials Tactical Emergency Medical Supplies](#)

Citizens Comments: none

Old Business:

Opticom Traffic Signal: Chair Kim LaBrush reported Town Manager submitted the request on Wednesday, April 19 for the Emergency Vehicle Pre-Emption (opticom) for all three lighted intersections in town.

Park PA System: Chair LaBrush reported that town manager stated PA system repaired and working.

Town Ordinance – House Numbering: Chair LaBrush stated the current Town Ordinance regarding house numbering requirements was emailed to members. Also emailed to members was City of Hagerstown code, Frederick County code and Frederick County Fire code. It was noted that several Fire Companies in Frederick County sell the reflective house number signs. There is no restriction or forbidding of the rural reflective high visibility numbering in the current Town Ordinance for Boonsboro. Emergency personnel have stated the reflective numbering is critical for many reasons and greatly helps them respond accurately. Member Ena Martin stated the high visibility numbering system may have helped prevent a recent tragedy reported by the national news in Kansas City. Kyle O'Connor stated Crestview HOA forbids this type house numbering. Liaison Kerns stated she ordered new reflective signage from the smartsign.com website, but has not had them installed yet. Councilman Ray Hanson asked if anyone has approached the Crestview HOA regarding their rules. Kyle O'Connor stated not recently only when he was sited for putting up such a sign. The commission was hoping to update our Town Ordinance and then approach the HOA. Consensus from the Commission is to recommend the use of 911 reflective mailbox and house numbers for new construction in town and to encourage homeowners to update their homes with such signage. Information can be included in the town newsletter after ordinance is updated.

Community Grant Program: Chair LaBrush stated this program not for us. Town not in the position to meet the required budget and staffing required.

New Business:

Boonsboro Emergency Center: Chair LaBrush stated that Mayor Long had a conversation with a local developer of the Lakin land tract and they expressed interest in donating 3-4 acres for such a project, so an alternative possible location has been identified. Concern was expressed by the BVFD and Rescue Company volunteers as to logistics to get to this site and intersection concerns. Chair LaBrush stated a request for a copy of Myersville's floorplan has been made. She would like to schedule tour of some other similar facilities. Some suggestions were Silver Spring, Fort Dietrick and Brunswick.

Sidewalks: Commission Chair Kim LaBrush included with the agenda citizen comments from Daniel Ward regarding sidewalk and safety conditions. The topic of the sidewalks on Potomac Street was brought up and are of concern. It was noted that the town has a façade improvement matching grant program that some residents in the historical portion of Potomac Street could apply for and can be used on sidewalk repair. It was noted that ADA requirements are 36 inches.

The commission will start their walk thru town program of sidewalks with Potomac Street next month starting at 6:00 pm. Chief Morgan stated we should notify residents we will be in the area taking pictures and examining the sidewalks to prevent questions and calls to the town hall. Chief Morgan stated there is no need for no parking signage on Potomac Street because it is illegal to park in a travel lane.

National Night Out: Chair Kim LaBrush stated National Night Out approaching quickly and is scheduled for Tuesday, August 1, 2023. She is working on obtaining a rock wall, helicopter, dunking booth and K-9 demonstration. There was some concern expressed regarding liability issues with a rock wall, Chair LaBrush stated they have them at other community NNO's. If others have ideas for NNO – please let her know. Volunteer Jay Metz will have the Stop the Bleed there for demonstrations. The commission plans to order the CPR training as soon as the budget is passed and implemented, so hopefully that will be available. Kyle O'Connor will inquire with BVFD if they can have smoke detectors and/or carbon dioxide detectors available for town residents.

Chairman's Report: no additional report

Boonsboro Police Department – Chief Morgan: The new signage was installed at Young Avenue and Reeder's Alley and was removed by the homeowner; it has been re-installed.

Boonsboro Fire Department Report – Kyle O'Connor

Nothing additional to report

Boonsboro Ambulance & Rescue Company Report – Jay Metz

Jay reported he had 12 participants at a Stop the Bleed training with the new equipment at the station. Carnival coming up May 26 thru June 3 – last year of contract with Reithoffer Shows, volunteers needed for food stand, etc. Washington County will begin implementing paid positions at stations in the county. Both Jay Metz and Kyle O'Connor expressed the need for volunteers at their organizations. Training is provided to qualified volunteers. It was suggested to add to the town newsletter the need for volunteers for the rescue squad and the fire department.

Council Liaison Report – Marilee Kerns

Kerns reported that the Town Manager is taking a new position as Town Administrator of Middletown and the town is accepting applications for the town manager position.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by motion from Kyle O'Conner, second by Bo Quinn and commission

consensus.

**Next Meeting Thursday, May 18, 2023 –
Meet at 6:00 pm at Town Hall for Sidewalk inspection of Potomac Street
Meeting at 7:00 pm Town Hall Annex**

Respectfully submitted,

Marilee Kerns

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