

## AGENDA

### Public Safety & Quality of Life Committee of Borough Council

Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 @ 6:00 PM

Committee Members: Bryan Travis, Chair  
Lisa Kearns  
Brian McGinnis

Staff & Representatives: Joshua Lee, Chief - West Chester Police Department  
Keith Kurowski, Director of Parks & Recreation  
Sean Metrick, Borough Manager  
Mark Scanlon, Fire Chief West Chester Fire Department  
Justin Robbins, Director of Operations Good Fellowship Ambulance Club

- I. Call to order **By Chair Bryan Travis at 6:31pm**
- II. Announcements *None*
- III. Comments, suggestions, petitions by residents in attendance regarding items not on the agenda. *(Please be advised that all public comments have a 5-minute time limit.) None*
- IV. Reports - (Attachments)

A. Monthly WCFD Report

Assistant Chief Justin McClure reports that WCFD had 1175 calls in 2025. The volunteers trained for over 12,000 hours in 2025, and the West Chester Fireman's Relief Association spent over \$107,000 to train WCFD volunteers in 2025. West Chester Borough was awarded a grant for over \$800,000 to assist with the purchase of a new fire truck, which would be delivered in 2028, with support from local leaders and support in Harrisburg from both Senator Carolyn Comitta and PA State Representative Chris Pielli. January 2026 the WCFD continued with a steady call volume with several fires, typical with the cold weather, including a house fire in the borough on West Miner Street. WCFD continues to support those with frozen pipes both for domestic and sprinkler systems in the surrounding municipalities.

B. Monthly WCPD Report

Chief Lee shares that during the snowstorm WCPD, WCFD, GFAC and Public Works all worked together to keep the town safe with the challenges that the snow and ice gave us. Also, a big thanks to Public Works for keeping the streets passable for emergency vehicles. At the end of 2025 there were two retirements, leaving vacancies in the department. There currently is a hiring campaign, which will lead to the hiring of officers in May or June. Bryan Travis asks how many total officers we have, they are looking to get to the 45 officers, which is allocated by borough council. There will be a promotion of two sergeants and two corporals. A part-time dispatcher has been hired, filling a yearlong vacancy. Calls for service show nothing out of the ordinary. Nuisance crime, such as public drunkenness, is high. In December there were 28 noise complaints, resulting in 8 citations. Three or four of the citations were from one loud party. In January there were 25 noise complaints, resulting in 1 citation. More than half of January's complaints were related to snow removal equipment and time of day of use.

C. Monthly GFAC Report

Justin Robbins, Director of Operations GFAC, reports 2025 was a record setting year with 8,994 calls, 2,268 of which were in the borough. Justin points out the Interfacility Transports & Special Operations report, which shows the highest number of calls for 2025 was for transport that use a special SUV to transport behavioral health patients. There were 408 patients in 2025. There were

249 calls to West Chester University in 2025. Lisa Kearns thanks GFAC on their program to transport behavioral health patients directly to Haven and not the hospital.

D. Public Safety Committee – Chair report – workplan and issues raised at prior meetings  
Bryan Travis shares his goals for 2026 and possibly longer. 1) Truck traffic ordinance – goal is to get a clearer understanding of the ordinance, update any discrepancies in the current ordinance and determine enforcement of the ordinance. 2) EMS funding gap. The borough postponed a large equipment purchase to fund EMS services with GFAC. This cannot be repeated annually. 3) Neighborhood quality of life – reducing illegal parking, vandalism and property damage, and excessive noise.

V. Old Business

A. Approve December 2025 meeting minutes (attachment) *Approved 3-0*

VI. New Business

A. Motion to approve request from Crime Victims Center to recognize Sexual Assault Awareness Month by hanging teal ribbons on the lampposts on Market and Gay Streets from New to Walnut Streets for the month of April. *Approved 3-0*

B. Motion to approve Resolution for West Chester Borough Emergency Operations Plan (attachment) *Approved 3-0*

Kyle Hudson asks if any of the plans will be released to the public, with redacted portions. Sean Metrick states that the information will not be shared with the public due to its sensitive nature.

C. Discuss Ordinance to require Borough Council to approve any 287(g) cooperation agreement to require Council approval prior to any participation by the WC Police Department in Immigration Enforcement (attachment) *Approved 3-0*

Brian McGinnis and Lisa Kearns share and discuss the need for an ordinance concerning 287(g). Mayor DeBaptiste and Chief Lee share their statement. Chief Lee shares special order 26-01 was issued to the police department. There were several comments, concerns, and support from the audience, from residents and non-residents of the borough: Dianne Herrin, Curry Malott, Rick London, Cavy, Gretchen Cole, and Holly Brown

D. Motion to approve agreement and MOU with East Bradford Township for West Chester Regional Emergency Response Team agreement. (attachments) *Approved 3-0*

E. Motion to approve WCBIDA request to install flags on streetlights downtown to celebrate America 250.

*Approval to install flag holders, but still will need approval from Public Works. Approved to be discussed at work session.*

F. Special Event Applications (SEAs)

1. March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 March For Paws 5k
2. March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Bunny Run 5k
3. May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Running Home 5k
4. May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Bournelyf Special Camps 5k
5. May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Penn Fusion 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity 5k
6. June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Turks Head Music Festival (rain date June 14<sup>th</sup>) at Everhart Park
7. August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 West Chester Area Council of Governments America 250 Celebration/Festival/Viewing Party & Drone Show in downtown West Chester
8. September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Chester County Restaurant and Food Truck Festival (rain date September 27<sup>th</sup>) in downtown West Chester
9. October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Annual Borough of West Chester Halloween Parade (raid date October 29<sup>th</sup>) in downtown West Chester

10. December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Santa at the Square at Marshall Square Park (rain date December 6<sup>th</sup>)

*All 10 SEA's were approved 3-0*

VII. Other Business **None**

VIII. Adjournment **By Chair Bryan Travis at 7:45pm**

Visit [www.west-chester.com](http://www.west-chester.com) for access to all attachments.

Agendas are posted to [www.west-chester.com](http://www.west-chester.com) by noon 3 business days prior to the meeting.