

Millersburg Borough Employee Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2019
Millersburg Borough Council Chambers

Call to Order – Chairwoman Hooper called the Council meeting to order at 7:00PM with Cl'ms Hoch, Ibberson, and Rivera present. Manager McGann, Mayor Ibberson were also present.

Guests – Cpl. Dan Wise and Patrolman Harold Trego

Police Department Matters – The meeting was scheduled specifically to give committee members insight into the challenges faced by the police department. The issues discussed included:

- Difficulty with hiring and retaining part-time officers
- Scheduling issues with part-time police officers attending court hearings
- The expense of hiring a full-time police officer
- The amount of time spent on paperwork, prisoner transports and court hearings vs. actual patrol time
- Perceptions of changing crime patterns in Millersburg
- Prevalence of illicit drugs
- Response time of state police
- Time invested in ordinance violations such as high weeds, trash accumulations and sidewalks not shoveled.
- Evidence storage

Officer Wise presented a document to the committee. He explained that he contacted several police officers who previously worked part-time for the Borough and asked why they moved on. The document outlines their answers. Chairwoman Hooper directed that this document be attached to the meeting minutes.

Cl'm Rivera asked if Council can include an advisory referendum question asking if citizens would support a tax increase to hire more police officers. McGann noted that it is unlikely that this is allowable under the Commonwealth's election laws and the Borough Code, but he will pose the question to the County Elections Bureau.

The meeting was duly adjourned at 8:37PM. Following the meeting, Committee Members were given a tour of the police department suite.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher M. McGann
Borough Manager

Answers of Part time Officers

Please give me a few reasons, 3 or 4 as to why you did not stay with MBPD?

- Officers:
- A. Low pay / no hope of full time career in Millersburg (offered FT)
Lack of back up
Long commute
No chance for advancement
 - B. Low pay / no full time
Long commute
No back up
Lack of community support (\$\$)
 - C. Offered full time with better pay
Wanted more action
Saw no career opportunity if he stayed
Handled calls alone
 - D. Offered full time with better pay
Not enough time for 2nd job
Lack of back up units
 - E. Offered Full time employment for much higher pay
Lack of chance to specialize/ get promoted
Wanted back up closer
Too long of a commute
 - F. Offered Full time with better pay elsewhere
Had other commitments that took up time