

BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP

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19088

BUCKINGHAM TOWNSHIP
Board of Supervisors
Work Session Agenda
May 24, 2023
6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Executive Session

Manager's Item:

- "Visiting Angels" Lighting Plan, 3617 Route 202, TMP 06-008-054-002

7:00 p.m. Central Bucks School District – School Resource Officer (SRO)
Presentation by Kevin Spencer

Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors
Work Session
Minutes

The work session of the Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors was held May 24, 2023 in the Township Building, 4613 Hughesian Drive, Buckingham, Pennsylvania.

Present:	Paul Calderaio Jon Forest Maggie Rash Dana S. Cozza Daniel Gray	Chairman Vice-Chairman Member Township Manager Township Engineer
Not Present:	Luke Rosanova Craig A. Smith, Esquire Gary Weaver	Bucks County Planning Commission Township Solicitor Township Water/Wastewater Consultant

The work session began at 6:00 p.m. with Executive Session to discuss police personnel matters.

Central Bucks School District – School Resource Officer (SRO), Presentation by Kevin Spencer

Mr. Kevin Spencer from the Central Bucks School District presented a summary of the School Safety and Security program they would like to implement at Central Bucks East High School. He explained the goal is for a Buckingham Township Police Officer to be assigned as the School Resource Officer, working full time at C.B. East High School.

Mr. Spencer noted the three cornerstones of the program are to: 1) provide a safe and secure physical building, 2) provide positive role models and emergency response protocols, and 3) have skilled security personnel to partner with local law enforcement and provide emergency services coordination. He said it is not to build a prison, but to provide a safe place for our kids.

Mr. Spencer explained the three types of school safety models and said area school districts use a combination of these types: School Security Officers (SSO), School Police Officers (SPO) and School Resource Officers (SRO). Mr. Spencer said the Central Bucks School District prefers the SRO model as they are more than just a police officer. He said the SRO links the school and local police department and discourages violence. Mr. Spencer explained a dedicated school SRO can handle a lot of situations/incidents and not have to call police in off the street. He also explained that “incidents” may be positive such as lunch with the students or sitting in the parking lot making sure everything is ok. Mrs. Rash questioned the statistics in the slide presentation, and requested a breakdown of how many of the incidents are positive. Mr. Spencer agreed to research this.

Mr. Spencer explained the primary responsibilities of the SRO as: 1) Establishing positive relationships among students, faculty and Police Officers and providing a safe learning environment for students, 2) Enforcing applicable laws on the premises of the High School or during school related activities, 3) Conducting training and participating in classroom discussions regarding safety and security.

Mr. Spencer said by having an SRO at the school, it reduces local police workload and improves response time. He said national and local juvenile arrest trends show when an SRO is present, the number of arrests go down.

Mrs. Rash asked if the township still has the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program which provides a relationship between the high school and the police department? Mrs. Cozza said yes, Buckingham Township continues to participate in the DARE program. Mr. Spencer said that federal funding has been reduced for the DARE program.

Mr. Calderaio asked if SRO's receive training specifically for special needs children who become inappropriately physical, and Mr. Spencer said they could receive that type of training, but there also is personnel trained within the school for these types of situations.

Mr. Calderaio asked since Holicong Junior High School and Central Bucks East High School are side by side (divided by a parking lot), could the SRO serve at both facilities. Mr. Spencer said the model for Central Bucks School District is to have the SRO at the High Schools primarily, but they could also walk through the middle school and get to know those kids, too.

The Board thanked Mr. Spencer for providing the presentation.

7:30 p.m. The Work Session adjourned.

8:29 p.m. The Work Session resumed.

Day in the Park

Mrs. Cozza confirmed the date of June 29 as scheduled for "A Day in the Park" annual township event. Mrs. Rash said she has a scheduling conflict, but to go ahead with the date.

"Visiting Angels" Lighting Plan, 3617 Route 202, TMP 06-008-054-002

Mr. Gray explained that the exterior lights that were installed at the "Visiting Angels" project a few years ago were not done so per Township ordinance, and they have now been fixed. The Board agreed it looks very nice and they were in favor of the lighting plan.

Volunteer Firefighter Tax Credit

Mrs. Cozza explained that the township had received a request from Warwick Township for all of the Central Bucks municipalities to provide a tax rebate to their firefighters from the Central Bucks School District tax. She said Buckingham is unique in that we have more than one fire company, and our firefighters live in different school districts, so this would be complicated.

July 4th, 2023 Holiday Schedule

Mrs. Cozza noted that July 3rd is a Monday, followed by the July 4th holiday, and asked the Board if they would consider providing the non-uniformed employees an extra holiday of July 3rd. The Board agreed to add July 3rd, 2023 as a bonus holiday.

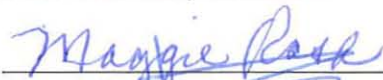
8:46 p.m. The Work Session adjourned.

Approved by the Board of Supervisors on the 21st day of June, 2023.

Buckingham Township Board of Supervisors



Paul Calderaio, Chairman

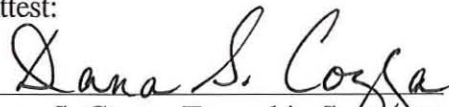


Maggie Rash, Vice-Chairman



Jon Forest, Member

Attest:



Dana S. Cozza, Township Secretary

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lori Wicen.