

Peters Township

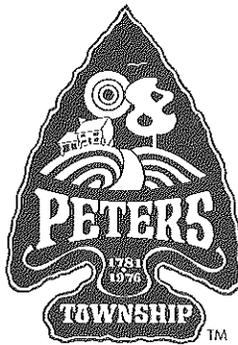
WASHINGTON COUNTY

MICHAEL A. SILVESTRI, *Manager*
PAUL F. LAUER, *Assistant Manager*

610 East McMurray Road
McMurray, Pennsylvania 15317-3420

724 / 941-4180 Fax 942-5022

Dept. Direct Dial No.:



SEP 06 12
5:34P

COUNCIL

ROBERT J. LEWIS, *Chairman*
GARY J. STIEGEL, JR., *Vice Chair*
FRANK ARCURI
ROBERT L. ATKISON
DAVID M. BALL
JAMES F. BERQUIST
MONICA R. MERRELL

August 29, 2012

Sara Rose
ACLU Foundation of Pennsylvania
313 Atwood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Dear Ms. Rose;

This is to confirm your conversation with Detective Wybranowski of North Strabane Township. It is our understanding that your open records request to Peters Township is being withdrawn in lieu of a unified request that will be made through the Washington County District Attorney's Office. That office oversaw and coordinated the grant process for the ALPR system. The records system is being hosted in North Strabane.

I am including a copy of the purchase order and minutes of our Council meeting that authorized Peters Township's participation in the program. I would also note that at this time, due to technical difficulties, Peters Township has not been using the system since January.

Please contact me if my understanding is incorrect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tom Gromek'.

Tom Gromek
Open Records Officer

cc. District Attorney Vittone
Township Solicitor William A. Johnson

Enc: 2

PURCHASE ORDER

The following number must appear on all related correspondence, shipping papers, and invoices:

P.O. NUMBER: [100]

TO:

Major Police Supply
47 N. Dell Avenue
Kenvil, NJ 07847

SHIP TO:

Harry J. Fruecht, Chief of Police
Peters Township Police
200 Municipal Drive
McMurray, PA 15317-3496

724-942-5030

P.O. DATE	REQUISITIONER	ORGANIZATION CODE	ACCOUNT NUMBER
05/31/2011	Chief Harry J. Fruecht		

QTY	UNIT	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
1		3-Camera Mobile ALPR ALPR (Advanced License Plate Recognition System)	7,535	\$,7535.00

TERMS: 30 Days Net

SHIPPING VIA: _____

SUBTOTAL	\$,7535.00
SHIPPING & HANDLING	0
OTHER	
TOTAL	\$,7535.00

1. Please send **two** copies of your invoice.
2. Enter this order in accordance with the prices, terms, delivery method, and specifications listed above.
3. Please notify us immediately if you are unable to ship as specified.
4. Send all correspondence to:
Paul F. Lauer
610 East McMurray Road
McMurray, PA 15317
Phone: 724.941.4180 Fax: 724.942.5022

Authorized by

Date

Financial
Public Safety
Planning
Engineering

Parks & Recreation
Library
Tax
Cable TV

Mr. Silvestri said he would like Mr. Zemaitis to tell Council what is going on with the Hidden Valley plan.

Mr. Zemaitis said that as Council is aware there was a minor land slide on Township open space. It was discovered that the landslide was more significant than suspected. The contractor that was hired did some emergency measures and it did impact the storm sewer system and some of it had to be demolished. The basin is functioning and it is shored up to the point where it is not an eminent threat. The prudent thing to do is to cancel the planned storm basin work, there was \$40,000 allocated. There are 3 ponds scheduled for rehab this year. The slide situation should be given priority.

9. Miscellaneous

License Plate Recognition Grant

Chief Fruecht is requesting permission to participate in a grant program through the DA's office. The program is for the purchase of a License Plate Recognitions program and equipment. Even though it is part of a grant, there would still be a cost of \$8,000 on the Township's part.

Chief Fruecht said that he has been approached by the DA Toprani, who has some technology funding through a grant to purchase 5 LPR systems. The five communities involved are South Strabane, North Strabane, Peters, Canonsburg and Cecil. Each system for each car is around \$21,000. If the Department were to do this project on its own it would cost around \$30,000. What is proposed is to purchase the complete system, server, software and the equipment for each of the 5 cars in each of the municipalities. The DA is asking each municipality that is interested to come up with \$8,000 to cover the shortage. There is a \$2,000 maintenance fee each year which would be divided among the 5 municipalities. Is this something Council would be interested in?

Mr. Ball asked what was included in the system.

The chief said that it is a 3 camera system which will record every plate that it sees and runs the plates.

Mr. Atkision asked if the cost would go up if all 5 municipalities did not join.

The Chief said that in speaking with the other Police Departments that they are committed to the program.

Mrs. Merrell asked if this would outfit only 1 vehicle.

The Chief said that is correct 5 cameras divided among 5 municipalities; one camera per fleet or municipality.

Mr. Ball asked if the information retrieved comes back negative, what happens to the information.

The chief said that it just gets stored. You build an extensive data base.

Mr. Ball asked Mr. Johnson if storing the location of a license plate read randomly does that constitute a constitution violation.

Mr. Johnson said that not that he knows of.

The Chief said that he understand Mr. Ball's concern, but put your name in any search engine and they are going to come up with information you don't want to share. It is already out there. This system has been out there for 4 or 5 years. I think if there was going to be a constitutional challenge it would have been already made.

Mrs. Merrell asked if there was anything in his budget that he would trade for this item.

The Chief replied that he did not think so. Everything is pretty well earmarked for this year. Ted Taylor IV, 136 Golden Eagle Drive, said he just wanted to make the point that all 5 municipalities agree to this, so that we will not be bearing the cost of this ourselves.

The Chief said it is all or none.

Ron Boocks, 855 Bebout Road, said that his first impression is that these things have a life of their own. So we start with one car then it becomes two cars and so on. It will grow. The other thing that concerns him is what if a stolen vehicle is detected, does that mean that would be a police pursuit. Frankly, police pursuits in this community concern him because of the potential for an accident given the high volume of traffic. He can see this in perhaps a more rural setting.

The Chief set that there are specific procedures in place for pursuit and are required by the state to file reports to the State Police as they occur.

Mr. Arcuri said he does not have a problem with it but he would like to have Mr. Johnson check on the legality of it.

The Chief said that he would like to focus the use of this vehicle on route 19 and the shopping areas.

Mr. Atkison said that he has a problem with it running up and down residential streets recording license plates and storing them. He is opposed to that.

Motion: To authorize funds in the budget for the the Police Department to participate in the Licenses Plate Recognition Grant in the amount of \$8,000.

Action: Authorize

Moved by Robert J. Lewis, **Seconded by** James F. Berquist

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Yes = 5, No = 2, Abstain = 0)

Yes: David M. Ball, Frank Arcuri, James F. Berquist, Monica R. Merrell, Robert J. Lewis.

No: Gary J. Stiegel, Robert L. Atkison

COUNCIL MINUTES 4-25-2011

Paul Sticht

10

TOWNSHIP MANAGER

- 6955 -