



McSherrystown Borough

Adams County, PA

After reviewing the Borough documents and procedure with the Borough Solicitor, President Smith and Mayor Todt are issuing the following joint statement:

We are reaffirming what the solicitor laid out in his Memorandum and reiterate that Chief Michael Woods did not go around the borough, nor do anything improper in acquiring a quote for the 2020 Ford Interceptor, as accused. Furthermore the former Borough Manager, Mr. Cook, followed proper procedure and protocol, meeting all legal & procedural requirements in contracting the lease agreement through the COSTAR process.

When we reviewed the right to know received by a former council member it showed that he had in his possession documents refuting the public accusations he made. Most importantly he had the signed document showing the former manager, not the Chief of Police, signed the lease, as per his authority. Having been involved in other COSTAR lease agreements, he had known, or should have known, the exception to the open bid process when going through COSTAR. What makes this whole situation worse, two sitting council members, who also have gone through previous COSTAR lease procurements, chose to engage in this attack on the honor and integrity of our Chief of Police.

Chief Woods has served the Borough of McSherrystown faithfully, with honor and distinction for nearly 20 years and we are grateful for all he does in service to our community. Over the last three years there has been a very public and very pointed attack by individuals, making allegations against Chief Woods, which have been proven false time and time again. The Borough Council, as an elected body, has a responsibility to serve the community and put the primary business of the legislative and financial functions of the Borough as its main focus. Up until now, we have not officially addressed these matters as we trust you, the community, to sort the truth out from amongst the lies. However, this blatant ongoing attack against Chief Woods and our Police Department as a whole, rose to a new level that warrants addressing.

While the council as a whole may not be able to address every rumor or accusation that comes before it, due to the extenuating circumstances of this instance, we felt it was appropriate to issue a joint statement to assure the community that we will not allow such attacks to continue against our Chief of Police, any officer or employee of the Borough without a formal response.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William F. Smith, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

William Smith, Jr.
President McSherrystown Borough Council

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Todt", written over a horizontal line.

Kathleen Todt
Mayor of McSherrystown