

Police force is more than a line-item

If you work, shop, bank or merely travel through Carroll, Monaghan and Dillsburg, the viability of our local police directly affects your safety and welfare. On Monday, November 5th, at 5:00 PM, Carroll Supervisors are expected to address a cutback in police because they represent the largest portion of the township's budget.

Years ago, the prior administration demanded our former Police Chief cut overtime which was driving up unbudgeted expenses. The "fix" was hiring additional full-time officers. The current supervisors, who rarely-if-ever attended municipal meetings prior to their election, are poised to reverse improvements made by prior administrations.

Proposed cutbacks in the police force will result in one-man shifts, leaving the on-duty officer with no backup. It appears that this practice is already happening, despite public objection. A cutback will dramatically weaken the police force to the extent where elimination becomes more achievable. Some supervisors have already expressed their desire to eliminate the force.

State Police coverage will result in much greater response time and is simply not acceptable in a community that includes a major crime corridor from Baltimore to Harrisburg. We cannot expect our unarmed Auxiliary force to respond to armed robberies and drug traffickers. State officers have no intimate knowledge of our community and are probably more likely to haul you away than to have a conversation, because they are already overburdened and under-funded.

The men on our police force (with the exception of the Chief) have homes and families alongside ours. They have vested interests and an affinity with our community. It is an assault to our sense of security when Carroll Supervisors view these men as mere budget items. Please show your support for Carroll Township Police, whether you are a resident or not, by attending the November 5th budget workshop at Carroll Township!

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