



**Manheim Township Board of Commissioners
Statement**

May 17, 2021

The Board of Commissioners is holding this workshop tonight (5/17/21) about the Police Services Agreement with Lancaster Township due to concerns about costs that heavily exceed what is paid. We believe it is an important issue that we must investigate, and it is necessary to be transparent with our residents about this problem. We also believe that the residents of Lancaster Township need to know about our concerns and to understand that we cannot continue providing law enforcement in their community if Manheim Township continues to lose large amounts of money on this Agreement.

We have been reviewing the terms of this Agreement for the past 1 ½ years. Township Officials also have been in contact with Lancaster Township officials to explain our concerns. We have had a legal review of the contract by Counsel. Manheim Township staff has also just completed a comprehensive process to verify that our calculation of the actual costs to provide these services to Lancaster Township is correct.

This is a 15-year contract, first signed in 2009 and amended in 2013. The contract gave Manheim Township the ability to review the contract annually. The review was to allow both parties to look at actual costs, and for Manheim Township to request actual expenses even if it was above the estimated annual compensation in the contract. We are in year 12 of the contract.

The Agreement and actual costs associated with providing services to Lancaster Township were not thoroughly reviewed in previous years. Thus, it was unclear if Manheim Township leadership was aware that the costs of the Police Services Agreement with Lancaster Township were exceeding the compensation paid by Lancaster Township each year. Manheim Township and our taxpayers have lost a large amount of money annually on this contract. It is estimated that Manheim Township subsidized the costs for providing police services to Lancaster Township in the amount of approximately \$500,000 - 800,000 each year over the past several years. This is an expense that continues to grow.

Now that the Board of Commissioners has identified and verified the issue, we are working at addressing the problem. We are planning to meet with Lancaster Township officials to find a solution that recovers funding for Manheim Township. Our goal is to get paid for our past expenses that exceeded the payments and to be paid for the actual costs of providing police services through the rest of the agreement. In the weeks ahead, the Manheim Township Board of Commissioners hopes to work with the Lancaster Township Board of Supervisors to resolve these problems that have been uncovered with our Police Services Agreement.

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