

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of June 11, 2015

The Plymouth Township Emergency Services Board held its meeting at the Plymouth Township Municipal Building at 7:00 P.M. Board members present were:

Karen Weiss	Township Manager and Board Secretary
Kevin Lawrence	Chief, Harmonville Fire Company
Andy Mount	Fire Marshal and Vice-Chairman
Jeff O'Brien	Lieutenant, Police Department
Dean Eisenberger	Plymouth Township Council
Mike Burton	Fire Chief, Plymouth Fire Company
Darrell Sams	Business Person
Jim Behr	President, Harmonville Fire Company
Matt McCloskey	Deputy Chief, Harmonville Fire Company
Ray Stocchi	President, Plymouth Fire Company

Absent: Kevin Thomas

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairman Andy Mount at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment pertaining to any of the items advertised on the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: a.November 20, 2014, b.January 15, 2015

Andy Mount made a motion to approve the minutes of November 20, 2014 and January 15, 2015. The motion was seconded by Darrell Sams and passed by a vote of 9-0.

New Business

a.Construction Update - Andy Mount provided an update as follows:

134 Plymouth Road - Plymouth Parc is in the process of finalizing their final Use and Occupancy permit for Building 5000.

Homewood Suites, a new Hotel located on Lee Drive is in the process of installing water mains.

Norris Sales located at 1000 Conshohocken, a new facility will be completing a fire pump test and will be finalizing their Use and Occupancy permit.

Cold Point Village - the second commercial building has been completed and the Use and Occupancy granted. There is one open tenant space left in the building.

A 110 foot cell tower will be constructed at 550 Brook Road.

The Plymouth Meeting Mall is replacing its current fire alarm system with a new one.

A new restaurant called Elevation Burger will be opening on the upper level of the Mall near Bertucci's.

The Doubletree Guest Quarters located at 640 Fountain Road is undergoing interior alterations to the main lobby and the interior guest suites.

One building will be demolished at 512 Township Line Road. The rest of the facilities are getting numerous new tenants.

The sinkhole repairs on Plymouth Road should be completed by August 31st.

b.Training Requirements

Plymouth Township Council recognized the fire fighters who received additional training during 2013-2014 at its April 13th Council meeting.

c.Recruitment and Retention

At this point the Board does not believe there is anything else that they can do to help with recruitment. They are seeking help from Council as far as ideas.

Ms. Weiss mentioned that the Township will have the added expense of the Cadillac tax for the fire companies' paid drivers.

Mr. Mount suggested initiating reimbursement for tuition for those people attending classes for a fire sciences degree.

Exit interviews may need to be conducted in order to determine why volunteers are leaving. It is believed that volunteers primarily leave due to relocation.

Recruitment is 95% of the problem.

Council needs to be made aware that something needs to be done within the next couple of years or there are going to be major problems for the emergency services.

Mr. Eisenberger stated that Council needs to be educated to look at long term budgeting for the fire services.

The Board discussed the possibility for charging for accidents that occur on the highway.

d.Incident Reporting

Mr. Mount stated that a meeting was held regarding incident reporting for the fire companies. A commitment is needed from both companies that they will utilize the firehouse software.

e.Child Protective Services Law/CPSL

Ms. Weiss stated that a new law has gone into effect that states that adult volunteers who are responsible for the welfare of children or who are in direct contact with them will need a child abuse clearance, a criminal background check and fingerprinting. If the volunteer has lived in the State for at least ten years and hasn't been convicted of one of the crimes listed then the fingerprinting can be waived.

Governor Wolf is passing a law which takes effect on July 25th that the fees for such will be waived with the exception of fingerprinting.

f.County Radios

Ms. Weiss will contact Chief Lawrence about a five year, no interest loan that will be used for the purchase of the radios from the County. The emergency services will need to determine how many radios are needed.

Old Business

a.Map Books

Ms. Weiss will check with Mr. Loschiavo to determine if Carroll Engineers will be putting in the mains and hydrants.

b.Truck Ownership - Liens

Ms. Weiss stated that the Township Solicitor has recommended that a lien be put on the title of the trucks that the fire companies have to prevent them from being traded or sold without the Township's knowledge.

It was suggested that perhaps a clause could be added to the by-laws that says that they can't be changed without Township approval. Ms. Weiss will check with the Solicitor.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Mount distributed packets of information from the Department of Environmental Protection pertaining to the following:

1100 Conshohocken regarding a cleanup report for a release from a diesel fuel AST. Delaware Valley Concrete is obligated to clean up the contamination to an Act 2 standard and to provide cleanup documentation to DEP.

907 Germantown pertaining to a Notice of Intent to Remediate.

1060 Conshohocken Road regarding their record plan.

907 Germantown pertaining a PADEP Land Recycling Act Notification.

Matt McCloskey explained the grant that was received by Harmonville and Plymouth Fire Companies. Senator Toomey's office supported the FEMA AFG grant in the amount of \$303,810.

Harmonville Fire Company will be receiving a new truck next week.

The emergency services have not been in PARC Apartments yet.


Next Meeting - September 17, 2015 - The next Emergency Services Board meeting will be held on September 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Audience Participation

None.

Adjournment - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Mary Beth Jamison
Recording Secretary