

**PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD**

Minutes of January 19, 2017

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

Kevin Thomas	Plymouth Community Ambulance/Chairman
Karen Weiss	Manager and Board Secretary
Andy Mount	Fire Marshal and Vice-Chairman
John Myrsiades	Deputy Police Chief
Dean Eisenberger	Plymouth Township Council
Ray Stocchi	President, Plymouth Fire Company
Matt McCloskey	Chief, Harmonville Fire Company
Mike McGuigan	President, Harmonville Fire Company
Charles Luthy	Deputy Chief, Plymouth Fire Company (Alternate for Chief Mike Burton)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kevin Thomas at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Reorganization**

**Chairman** - Ms. Weiss asked for nominations for Chairman. Mike McGuigan nominated Ray Stocchi and was seconded by Kevin Thomas. Ms. Weiss asked if there were additional nominations and there were none. The motion passed unanimously.

**Vice-Chairman** - Ms. Weiss asked if there were nominations for Vice-Chairman and Kevin Thomas nominated Andy Mount. The motion was seconded by Ray Stocchi. Ms. Weiss asked if there were additional nominations and there were none. The motion passed unanimously.

**Secretary** - Ms. Weiss asked for nominations for Secretary and Andy Mount nominated Karen Weiss. The motion was seconded by Mike McGuigan. There were no additional nominations. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Weiss distributed a membership list showing the names, positions, phone numbers, and emails for the emergency services board members. She asked that these be reviewed and to notify her of any changes.

**Public Comment**

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

**Approval of Minutes: November 17, 2016** – Matt McCloskey made a motion to approve the November 17, 2016 minutes and was seconded by Kevin Thomas. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

**a. Construction Update**

Andy Mount presented the construction update as follows:

A Mission Barbecue and a Vision Works are being constructed at the old Houlihan's Restaurant on Germantown Pike. The steel is currently being installed.

The steel is going up on a new WaWa being constructed on Ridge Pike.

A new CVS Pharmacy is being built on Butler Pike.

The Holland School has closed.

Ms. Weiss stated that Dawsons Restaurant has closed.

Ms. Weiss stated that there are traffic issues pertaining to the Dunkin Donuts on Germantown Pike.

Ms. Weiss advised that no tenant has been disclosed for the Macy's store that is closing at the Plymouth Meeting Mall.

Mr. Eisenberger stated that Ridge Park and Plymouth Elementary Schools are putting on additions. Both buildings will have sprinklers. There will be four new classrooms in each building.

**b. New Radios**

Deputy Chief Myrsiades stated that there is a delay pertaining to when the new radios will be received by the emergency services. Distribution is expected to begin in July.

**c. Apparatus Liens**

Ms. Weiss stated that according to the by-laws for Harmonville Fire Company, in the event that it dissolves, all assets will be turned over to the Township. Plymouth Fire Company does not have this language in its bylaws. The Township came up with a plan to place liens on apparatus so that vehicles would come back to the Township. Plymouth Fire Company would like direction from the Township Solicitor regarding this. They could either change their by-laws to reflect this or add liens to the titles.

#### **d. Incident Reporting**

Mr. Mount stated that the Township is looking for a commitment from both fire companies to use the Firehouse Software on the Cloud. Before committing, the fire companies would like to have guidelines as to how the reporting will happen. Mr. Mount will meet with the fire companies in order to make this work. He needs the contact names from each fire company.

#### **e. Police Department Update**

Deputy Chief Myrsiades mentioned that the Emergency Management Plan is updated each March. His department is in the process of working on this.

Ms. Weiss asked if the police department has inquired lately about the number of people with special needs in the Township who may need assistance in an emergency. Deputy Chief Myrsiades stated that this needs to be reported to the County Special Needs Registry. Ms. Weiss will look into putting something in the Township newsletter informing residents of this.

#### **f. Harmonville Fire Company Update**

Kevin Lawrence will now be the alternate to the Emergency Services Board.

Michael McGuigan is the new president of the fire company.

An updated officers list has been submitted to Karen Weiss, Andy Mount, and Chief Lawrence.

#### **g. Plymouth Fire Company Update**

Hall rentals remain good.

#### **h. Plymouth Ambulance Update**

Kevin Thomas stated that the Christmas toy run was a success. Approximately 5,000 toys were distributed to Bryn Mawr and St. Christopher's Hospitals. This continues to grow each year.

#### **i. Repositioning of Ambulances**

Plymouth Ambulance will reposition an ambulance near Plymouth Fire Company during bad weather events.

Mr. Mount mentioned that there is an older woman who lives at Plymouth Gardens Apartments who refuses the help of Adult and Aging Services. She calls the ambulance approximately fifty-two times per year for assistance. The board discussed this and agreed that the police department would help Plymouth Ambulance when this happens.

### **Old Business**

None

### **a. GIS Mapping**

Mr. Mount has sent a list of corrections to the original map that was received. Aqua would like to complete all updates at once. Mr. Mount will then get the updates from Aqua, PA which will show the mains. The emergency services asked for a shopping center layout but the company may not have the ability to do this.

The emergency services would like to get a parcel map without the zoning layer.

### **Next Meeting - March 16, 2017**

The next meeting of the board will take place on March 16, 2017.

### **a. Frequency of Meetings**

Ms. Weiss stated that according to the original ordinance the Emergency Services Board was to meet every month. The Township changed the ordinance to meet every other month. The board agreed that they would continue to meet every other month.

Mr. Eisenberger asked Mike McGuigan what would happen if someone were to call 911 from their cell phone from their residence. Mike stated that when a call is made from a cell phone from your home, it will not register that home address.

Ms. Weiss suggested that this information be put in the Township newsletter to inform residents.

Mr. Eisenberger asked about Mutual Aid and how this works when Plymouth Township assists other Townships with emergency services calls. He asked how the Township is compensated for use of its vehicles and personnel. Mr. Eisenberger asked if there is a mechanism in place for financial compensation. There is not.

Matt McCloskey and Mike Burton have discussed this and manpower is the issue regarding the mutual aid. They do not see it as an issue thus far but they are concerned. This is something that could be looked into and begin discussing ideas for compensation. Mr. Eisenberger suggested looking for ideas for this.

**Audience Participation**

None

**Adjournment** - There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Mary Beth Jamison*  
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Recording Secretary