

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of January 21, 2021

The Plymouth Township Emergency Services Board held its meeting via Zoom. Board members and others present were:

Mike Matusheski	Fire Marshal/Emergency Management Coordinator
Mike McGuigan	President, Harmonville Fire Company and Chairman
Adam Heffelfinger	President, Plymouth Fire Company and Vice Chairman
Sgt. Chris Schwartz	Plymouth Police Department
John Hoffman	Chief, Harmonville Fire Company
Kevin Lawrence	Safety Officer Harmonville Fire Company
Jim Behr	Vice President, Harmonville Fire Company
John Heleniak	Chief, Plymouth Fire Company
Thomas Trojansky	Chief of Operations, Plymouth Ambulance
Kevin Thomas	Plymouth Community Ambulance
Kevin Bowe	President/EVB Towing Company
Jim Wallace	Director of Code Enforcement
Karen Weiss	Township Manager, Recording Secretary
Karen Bramblett	Plymouth Township Council Vice-Chair

1) **Pledge of Allegiance** - The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2) **Public Comment**- None

3) **Reorganization**- Mr. McGuigan asked for nominations for Chairman. Chief Hoffman nominated Mr. McGuigan for Chairman. Mr. McGuigan asked if there were additional nominations and there were none. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. McGuigan asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Chief Heleniak nominated Mr. Heffelfinger. Mr. McGuigan asked if there were additional nominations and there were none. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. McGuigan asked for nominations for Recording Secretary. Chief Hoffman nominated Ms. Weiss. Mr. McGuigan asked if there were additional nominations and there were none. The motion passed unanimously.

4) **Approval of Minutes**- November 19, 2020 - The November 19, 2020 minutes were unanimously approved, motion was made by Chief Hoffman and was seconded by Mr. Bowe.

5) New Business:

a. **COVID 19 Pandemic-** Chief Heleniak stated Plymouth Fire Co. is having a lot of success with receiving the COVID vaccine, particularly in Lehigh Valley. Mr. Bowe asked when Montgomery County will have more vaccines available. Chief Heleniak stated he has not received information as to when Montgomery County will have more vaccines. Ms. Bramblett asked why Lehigh County has more than Montgomery County. Chief Hoffman stated Lehigh County is receiving their vaccines through Lehigh County Healthcare Network. Although, Chief Hoffman stated he did write a letter to the Montgomery County Commissioners, but has heard nothing back.

Chief Hoffman stated his members are getting vaccinated through Lehigh Valley as well and Tower Health. Chief Hoffman voiced his concern that his members are putting their lives at risk, therefore emergency first responders should have vaccines readily available. Mr. Matusheski stated the County Chief's Association is trying to get on the agenda to raise concern to this issue. Chief Hoffman asked Ms. Bramblett if she could take this to Council to draft a letter about the dissatisfaction about vaccine distribution. Ms. Bramblett stated she will.

Mr. Trojansky stated this Sunday, January 24th at 8:30 a.m. they will be distributing 600 vaccines from a local pharmacy to first responders. Mr. Trojansky stated Township Council and Supervisors should take a united stance and question the County Commissioners regarding vaccine distribution.

b. **Emergency Operations Plan-** Mr. Matusheski stated he sent in the annual review to County in December. Mr. Matusheski stated there was one change to it and once he receives it back, Council will review it to approve.

c. Construction Update:

Active Projects

1. **100 Lee Drive (SAFStor Self Storage Facility)** - 3 Story, 105,000 SF Self-Storage Building Construction of a new three story, 800-unit self-storage facility. Building construction is approximately 50% complete. Pile supported foundations are complete, framing complete to the 3rd floor, and masonry stair towers and elevator shafts complete.

2. **Plymouth Valley Estates-** This 79 single family home subdivision is bounded by Plymouth Road, Johnson Road, North Gravers Road and Plymouth Ridge Office Park.

Project construction is progressing on the first phase of 34 lots with permits issued for 24, and 4 issued Certificates of Occupancy.

3. **Metroplex, Suites 2426 & 2430** (PLCB Wine & Spirits and Marshall's) - Subdivision of former Dick's Sporting Goods tenant space. The PLCB space is complete. The Marshall's space is 95% complete.

4. **716 Belvoir Road** (Colonial Middle School) - 3 Story, 232,000 SF School Building. Construction of a new middle school on the same lot as the existing building. All permits have been issued, and full construction is proceeding. Completion of new building estimated for start of 2021-2022 school year.

5. **1113 Ridge Pike** (Bimbo Bakeries) - 71,000 SF Distribution Facility. Subdivision and land development for a new distribution facility on the current Bimbo Bakeries site. The facility will take access from Academy Drive. Foundation construction is complete. Steel erection complete and interior construction is underway.

7. **1103 Ridge Pike** (Amazon) - 174,000 SF Distribution Facility. Adaptive reuse and expansion of former 7up building, including 130,000 SF warehouse and office, plus 44,000 SF delivery van parking canopy. Core & Shell phase (tenant preparation) work is nearly finished. Tenant improvement plans are finished review. Permits will be issued week of 1/18/21.

8. **202 Ridge Pike** (Plymouth Square Shopping Center/Brixmor Office) - Alterations to approximately 40,000 SF of the 292,000 SF multi-tenant/multi-use facility. Altered space is primarily for office use by the Landlord. Construction is underway with completion expected late March 2021.

9. **22 Carland Road** (Sharp Packaging) - 48,000 SF Manufacturing Facility. Alterations to 26,000 SF of an existing one story manufacturing and warehouse building. The building has a full coverage fire sprinkler system plus FM 22 fire suppression in the IT room. Permits have been issued and interior construction is nearly complete.

d. **Police Department Update-** Sgt. Schwartz stated they are still in the hiring process, completed the oral interviews and currently are conducting background checks. Officer Brunner was promoted to second class patrol by the Civil Service Commission. Officer Lowery was promoted to third class patrol officer probation by the Civil Service Commission. Sgt. Schwartz stated K-9 Major retired from duty following 11 years of service to Plymouth Township. Officer Watts and K-9 Major were awarded a Commendation of Merit for their successful apprehension of a fleeing subject.

Sgt. Schwartz stated Plymouth Township Police Department operated a scene of a barricaded subject in the 1900 block of Johnson Road on Wednesday, January 13th. Chief Myrsiades wanted to thank all who participated.

e. Harmonville Fire Company Update- Chief Hoffman stated Harmonville's year in review for 2020: ran 654 calls, 17 were working fires, 12 vehicle rescues, 68 trainings, 842 man hours, 59 non-covid events, and assisted in 84 covid events, such as birthday drive-bys.

f. Plymouth Fire Company Update- Chief Heleniak stated effective January he has taken over the duties as Chief from outgoing Chief Mitch Kijak. Plymouth's year in review for 2020: ran 649 calls, total incident hours totaled 296 hours, and the total number of firefighters responding for the year was 5,318 personnel. Chief Heleniak stated the banquet hall will remain closed until June. Also, they will be planning to look at aging apparatus.

g. Plymouth Ambulance Update- Mr. Trojansky stated Plymouth Ambulance ran 13,000 calls in 2020, which is down 2,000 calls from last year due to COVID.

h. Miscellaneous- Ms. Weiss stated its been over two years since we last recognized those fire fighters who earned training certificates. Ms. Weiss asked if each fire company would like to know where they left off. All agreed. The recognitions will be at an upcoming Council meeting.

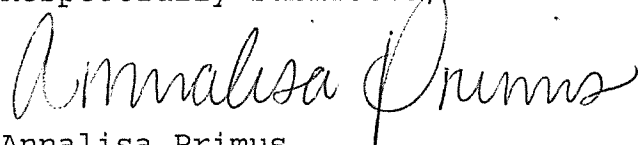
6) **Old Business-** None

7) **Next Meeting - March 18, 2021-** The next meeting of the board will take place on March 18, 2021.

8) **Audience Participation-** None

9) **Adjournment -** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Annalisa Primus

Recording Secretary