

Upper Uwchlan Township (UUT) Emergency Management Planning Commission (EMPC)

Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 23, 2021 6:30 PM

I Call to Order

Byron Nickerson called the EMPC meeting to order at 6:30 PM. The following members were in attendance: Byron Nickerson, John DeMarco, Richard Ruth, Cathy Tomlinson, Kevin Cook, Steve Hirsch, Julie Hearn-Nicely and Tom Kelly. Also, in attendance was Kathi McGrath, Secretary; Paul Mattes, President of Ludwigs Corner Fire Co; Ross Trego, Chief of Ludwigs Fire Co; Joe Stoyack, Township Planning Commission and Steven Eavaezek, Resident.

II Guest Presenters

Byron turned the meeting over to Paul Mattes and Ross Trego, Ludwigs Fire Co. to do a presentation on requesting Township funds for purchasing new equipment for Station 73.

- Paul reviewed the current apparatus and what is needed to make the Station NFD Compliant.
- Multiple trucks are over 25 years old.
- He is requesting an increase of \$25,000.00 to add to the current township contribution of \$74,160.00. There has not been any increase since 2008 and would like to understand how the township comes to the equation of distributing funds to the various fire companies and EMS that provide service to the township.
- There have been increased fire calls and the township contributions have not changed.
- Paul is also requesting a onetime contribution of \$200,000.00 to purchase new apparatus (Water Tanker).
- Paul said they have dedicated fund drives, grants and are currently looking at financing their current debt.
- The banquet facility Griffin Hall needs repair and updating. It was built in 1982 with the original Fire house built in 1972. They are taking a strategic look at renovating the building in the near future.

Byron turned the meeting over to Joe Stoyack, Vice Chairperson of the Township Planning Commission.

- Every 10 years the township is required to update and change the Comprehensive plan. The last plan was done in 2014.

- The plan covers Fire, EMS, Police, Park & Recreation, Consultants, Capital plans and capital funding.
- Joe said it's up to the EMPC how we would like to evolve. Possibly talk to surrounding townships. Tony Scheivert, Township Manager needs to know by 11/1/2021 if the EMPC is needing outside funds by the Township. Budget request due 11/1/2021 to Tony Scheivert.
- Planning Commission would like to see a draft plan by 10/3/2022 for EMS, Fire, Ambulance and Hazmat.
- The first draft of the Township Comprehensive Plan would be in 2023.
- Final Approved Township Comprehensive Plan complete in 2024.
- The Trails Master Plan was done in 2005, includes capital improvements.
- Joe said to forward any questions to himself or Sally Winterton, Chairperson of the Planning Commission.

Byron thanked both Ludwigs Fire representatives and Joe Stoyack for their time and turned the meeting back to the EMPC regular business.

III Approval of Previous Minutes

John DeMarco made a motion for the Draft Meeting Minutes to be approved. Richard Ruth seconded the motion. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved. No abstentions.

IV Fire Services Report

- Richard reported the new tower was put in service a couple of months ago. He also said East Brandywine is renovating their firehouse. Richard said during the Ida Storm Lionville rescued 14 out of Coatesville flooding waters from an apartment complex. Richard mentioned all members of the Lionville Firehouse are up to date with CPR and that on October 2, they will be having an Open House and a Parade.

V Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Report

- Nothing to report. All reports were already sent out via email.

VI County Report

Nothing to Report.

VII Training Officer Report

- Byron reported the Limerick drill is being held in November and the next monthly meeting will be focused on training for that drill in addition to a presentation from the Red Cross. There will be limited people able to be at the training and drill due to social distancing.
- Byron passed around a handout of upcoming training events.

VIII Pipeline Officer Report

- Tom reported dredging of Marsh Creek Reservoir. Energy Transfer submitted a dredging plan to the Township and the DEP. The major impact to the Township will be the trucks using Township roads to remove clay. Roads to be used are Highview, Lakeview and Milford.
- Tom discussed HDD290 Reroute. He said Energy Transfer is waiting on approval from DEP on the reroute. The plan is to cross over Little Conestoga at Milford, utilizing one lane 24/7 for horizontal drilling. The township is still working on the timing of lane closures with Energy Transfer.
- TC Energy is currently working at Fellowship and Pottstown Pike (corner of St. Elizabeth's Church) for repairs to the trail due to a sink hole.

IX Chairman/Coordinator Report

- Byron reported at the October EMPC meeting, the Red Cross will be presenting.
- The County RACES people will be coming in to install a router and antennae on the township building roof next week or prior to the Limerick Drill.
- Byron noted he and Chief DeMarco put together a plan for alternate egress in the Park Road area for residents to safely evacuate on foot if a pipeline emergency would occur and presented to the Board of Supervisors.
- Topics that came up regarding the Dam emergency action plan. There will be a Dam awareness seminar on Tuesday at E. Brandywine. Cathy said we need to have more dialog with the State Park. She wants to know if the Dam was lowered prior to the Ida storm?

X Old Business

- Byron proposed a new agenda format for the EMPC. If commission members have anything to add to let Byron know and he will add to the agenda.

XI New Business

- Byron said he needs to submit a budget by November 1st. He reviewed the 2003 EMS Study and recommends doing a new study which could be justified spending.
- Kevin Cook made a formal recommendation to the EMPC for an update to the 2003 Emergency Services Study. All members were in favor, motion passed unanimously.
- IT assistance was suggested by Kevin for the smartboard. John will call Helpnow and get an estimate.

XII Round Table

- John DeMarco mentioned the Trunk or Treat Community Event is being held at Upland Farms on 10/31/2021 at 3:00 PM. Byron said he is looking for volunteers to help man the EMPC Table and to let him know if available/interested.

Cathy Tomlinson made a motion to end the meeting, Julie Hearn-Nicely second.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathi McGrath
EMPC Secretary