

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of May 16, 2024

The Plymouth Township Emergency Services Board held its meeting in the Greater Plymouth Community Center. Board members and others present were:

Mike Matusheski	Fire Marshal/Emergency Management
Mike McGuigan	President, Harmonville Fire Company and Chairman
Sgt. Chris Schwartz	Plymouth Police Department
John Hoffman	Chief, Harmonville Fire Company
Shelly Simpson	President, Plymouth Fire Company
John Heleniak	Chief, Plymouth Fire Company
Jerry Watson	Captain, Plymouth Ambulance
Kevin Bowe	President, EVB Towing Company
Lynne Viscio	Plymouth Township Council
Karen Weiss	Recording Secretary

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

2) **Public Comment**- There was no public comment pertaining to any items advertised on the agenda.

3) **Approval of Minutes- February 15, 2024** - The February 15, 2024 minutes were unanimously approved, Chief Heleniak made a motion and was seconded by Sgt. Schwartz.

4) New Business:

a. Police Department Update- Sgt. Schwartz stated Officer Wieczenski started her academy training at Temple University this month. Sgt. Wilhelm graduated from Northwestern Police Staffing Command School. Detective Moretti was awarded Officer of the Year at the Council Meeting, and K-9 Eros sadly passed away in April. Sgt. Schwartz stated there have been a couple of arrests made recently. The application process is open for entry-level officers. Sgt. Schwartz stated they are launching a new engagement platform to get messages out across social media. There was a town hall meeting on April 30th regarding burglaries in the Narcissa Road area. Sgt. Schwartz stated they completed the citizen's police academy on Monday night at the Council Meeting. Sgt. Schwartz stated the department and association will be participating in Plymouth Township Day.

b. Harmonville Fire Company Update- Chief Hoffman wanted to thank Council and Ms. Weiss for pushing through the tax credit. Chief Hoffman stated their 100th Anniversary Banquet is Friday, May 24th.

c. Plymouth Fire Company Update- Chief Heleniak stated they are working continuously on the purchase of a new firetruck by the end of the year. Chief Heleniak stated they would like to echo what Chief Hoffman said, thanking Council and Ms. Weiss for their efforts regarding the real estate tax rebate. Chief Heleniak wanted to congratulate Harmonville Fire Company on their 100th Anniversary.

d. Plymouth Ambulance Update- Mr. Watson stated there will be three new vehicles in service. If anyone is interested in CPR, first aid, or AED training, Chief Trojansky would be happy to set that up. Mr. Watson stated Chief Trojansky would like to set up a meeting with the fire companies regarding fund drives. Mr. Watson stated they have several new volunteers joining. Ms. Weiss reminded them about the tax rebate if they are residents.

e. Speed Table- Ms. Viscio stated they get many requests about the speed in which people travel down the roads. Ms. Viscio stated most of the complaints are on Jolly Road. Ms. Viscio asked the members what they thought of placing speed tables, speed bumps, and signs. Chief Hoffman and Chief Heleniak stated they would not be opposed to it, anything to keep the neighborhood safer. Sgt. Schwartz stated the Chief found that speed bumps push vehicles to other cut through streets and creates a delay in emergency vehicle response by 1 to 10 seconds. Ms. Weiss asked Plymouth Ambulance if that would affect transporting patients. Mr. Watson stated yes, especially daytime versus nighttime. Ms. Weiss stated it would affect Public Works as well with the sanitation workers on the back of the trash trucks. Ms. Viscio stated she spoke with the Chief of Police and he stated he would explore different ideas.

f. Revise False Alarm Ordinance- Ms. Viscio stated the Chief of Police suggested to residents to change their alarm system so that the Police would respond first instead of the alarm company calling the resident. However, the residents stated they would be fined if it were a false alarm. Council suggested revising the ordinance so that for police calls there would be no charge. Chief Hoffman asked who is in charge of this, such as billing. Mr. Matusheski stated the police department handles it all. Members discussed in detail this matter. All agreed that it would stay in place for repeat offenders and increase commercial fees. In addition, they suggested surveying other Townships to see how they handle it. Chief Hoffman requested that the police notify the fire companies that fines are being issued.

g. Miscellaneous- Chief Heleniak wanted to make aware that Plymouth Fire Company responded to a call on Carland Road and when responding it increased their response time due to the Ridge Pike construction project. Mr. Watson stated there has been an uptick in accidents as well relating to this project. Members asked if pre-emption could be tied to all signals for emergency vehicles. Mr. Bowe stated Tires Plus to G.L Sayre is very dark at night. Chief Hoffman stated the dealership lights would have to be removed due to the Ridge Pike construction project, so it would be even darker in that area.

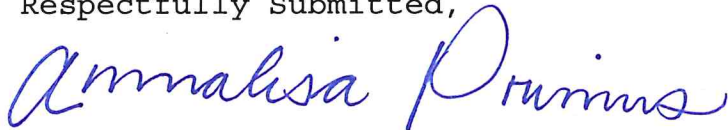
5) Old Business- Mr. Matusheski stated the Circus had no incidents when it was in town. The 1912 Club put in their permits for fireworks on June 29th.

6) Next Meeting - August 15, 2024- The next meeting of the board will take place on August 15, 2024.

7) Audience Participation- None

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Annalisa Primus
Recording Secretary