

Douglas Township, Montgomery County

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AGENDA – March 20th, 2023

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Executive Session
4. Minutes of March 6th, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting
 - a. Additions, corrections, motion for approval
 - b. Agenda for March 20th, 2023 – additions, corrections, motion for approval.
5. Treasurer's Report – Cynthia O'Donnell
 - a. Authorization to pay the bills (BOS Approval Required)
 - b. Copies of Unpaid Bills Detail Report in Township Lobby
6. Police Department – Chief Templin
 - a. General Order - Knox Box Access (awaiting ordinance review)
 - b. Start process for hiring additional police officer
7. Embree Development Group – Medical Facility Rt.100/Grosser Rd Final Plan Resolution (BOS Approval Required)
8. Solicitor Report – Robert Brant, Esq.
 - a. Vehicle Towing Policy (Legal Review)
 - b. GF&R Lease Agreement (Legal Review)
 - c. Fire Prevention Ordinance (Legal Review)
9. Engineering Report – Khal Hassan, Pennoni Engineering
 - a. Bartman Ave/Holly Rd
10. Emergency Services Reports
 - a. GF&R Report
 - b. GACAS Report
 - c. Bally Ambulance Report
 - d. ESB Meeting – March 13th, 2023
 1. Meeting Minutes ready for approval.
11. Public Works – Mike Heydt
 - a. Award bids for road paving work & equipment rentals
 - b. Authorization to extend contract for 1 year with AMS

12. Manager's Report

1. Schedule of Meetings

a. Monday April 3rd, 2023 BOS Agenda Mtg @ 6:30pm, BOS Mtg @ 7pm. Thursday April 13th, 2023 P/A Meeting @ 7pm – Workshop @ 6:30pm (Zoning Updates & Mailboxes).

2. Rt. 100 Corridor – Market Street Committee (Schedule Meetings in 2023)

3. Lighting Ordinance & Sign Ordinance – P/A recommended approval to BOS for review. MCPC finishing their final reviews.

13. Old Business/New Business

14. Public Comment

15. Adjournment

NEXT MEETING MONDAY APRIL 3RD, 2023 @ 7PM

The meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 7:17P.M. Attending were Chairman Joshua Stouch, Vice-Chairman Sara Carpenter, Supervisor Alan Keiser, Solicitor Robert Brant, Manager Peter Hiryak, Khal Hassan of Pennoni & Associates, Andrew Duncan, Chief Templin, McKenna Powanda, Mike Heydt, Cindy O'Donnell, and approximately 21 residents/developers. A reporter was present.

Mr. Stouch led in the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that there were two Executive Sessions this evening, one from 6:00pm to 6:30pm involving real estate and personnel matters and then from 6:45pm-7:15pm involving personnel matters and litigation. No decisions or votes were taken.

Mr. Stouch asked if there were any additions, corrections, or comments to the minutes of March 6th, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting, none were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Ms. Carpenter to approve the minutes of the March 6th, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Mr. Stouch asked if there were any questions, comments, or corrections to the March 20th, 2023 Board of Supervisors Agenda, no changes were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Keiser, seconded by Mr. Stouch to approve the March 20th, 2023 Board of Supervisors Agenda. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report (Authorization to pay the bills) – Cynthia O'Donnell

The unpaid bills as of March 20th, 2023 is \$313,947.54, the unusual bills are AMA Resource-Berkys Transfer for removal of office debris, Bob Hilbert Sportswear for recycling department uniforms, Clemens Septic Service for pumping out septic at highway department, Cynthia O'Donnell for reimbursement for GFOA classes and reimbursement of laptop equipment purchase from her, GT&E LLC for new backhoe out of ARPA fund, John Frantz for police FOP guidelines, McKenna Powanda for reimbursement of fees for pesticide exam, Merkels Shoes for highway department work shoes, Michael Heydt for reimbursement of registration fees, Sharkan Supply for highway tools, Signarama for mission statement sign for police department, Stratix Systems Inc for new police department copier, and Montgomery Co Treasurer for police department records software. Ms. Carpenter asked if the software fee for the police department is a yearly fee, Ms. O'Donnell replied yes. No other questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Ms. Carpenter for authorization to pay the unpaid bills as of March 20th, 2023 in the amount of \$313,947.54. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Police Department Report – Chief Barry Templin

February 2023 Police Statistics: 274 calls for service, 7 reportable accidents, 7 non-reportable accidents, 13 criminal investigations, 2 criminal arrests, 9 paper citations, 58 e-citations, 4 non-traffic citations, and 0 parking tickets. Chief Templin said the National Drug Take Back Initiative is scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 from 10am to 2pm. Persons interested will be able to bring their unused, unwanted, and expired medications to the police department for proper disposal. Since the program's inception our police department has collected and properly disposed of 1,821lbs of medications. Officer Castellucci has successfully completed his required courses, Handcuffing and Defense Tactics, through Personal protection Consultants. Officer Castellucci has applied for and was granted the title "Certified Law Enforcement Control Tactics Instructor" through the Municipal Police Officer's Education and Training Commission (MPOETC). This will fulfill our in-house instructor requirement to instruct our officers on Defense Tactics and Handcuffing on a yearly basis as is the new requirement by MPOETC. Each of our officers have been trained on the use of the Axon 3 body worn camera

and the body worn cameras are currently in use. In today's policing, I believe this was a very wise purchase by the Township in that the body worn cameras will reduce liability, promote transparency to the public and hopefully be used as de-escalation tool when dealing with certain situations the officer will come across. As an update for the Board Officer Poux, who is out on a work-related injury, has informed me that his doctors have pushed back his return. Also, Sergeant Evans has injured himself off duty which may or may not require surgery. We also have not replaced Officer Mathias since his retirement. This will deplete our police department from twelve officers to nine officers. We have not hired an officer since 2014. I spoke with the Board briefly about this at the Emergency Services board meeting last Monday night. I would like to ask the board's consideration to hire a fulltime officer to help alleviate the load on our other officers and reduce the overtime needed to cover shifts while officers take their vacation time, call off sick, or need to attend training. Keep in mind this is a lengthy process, and we probably would not have this officer on the street by himself until end of summer should we start the process immediately.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Ms. Carpenter to start the lengthy process for hiring a new fulltime police officer to start the end of summer. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to accept the police department report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Solicitor Report – Robert Brant, Esq.

Mr. Brant stated that the Vehicle Towing Policy, GF&R Lease Agreement, Fire Prevention Ordinance, and Knox Box Access are all being reviewed.

Embree Development Group – Medical Facility Rt.100/Grosser Rd Final Plan Resolution (BOS Approval Required) – Mr. Brant stated that the “Neighborhood Hospital” consists of Lot A for the hospital, Lot B 3-story medical office building, and Lot C is open space/Market St – future development area. A staff meeting was held on March 8th, 2023 with representatives of the developer and Township staff to discuss the dedication of the Market Street future extension, as well as the Act 209 Traffic Impact Fee of approximately \$847,320 by the developer and voluntary fees in lieu of waivers of approximately \$30,280. There will be a Deed of Execution for Market Street Plan. Mr. Brant thanked Mr. Hasson and his office for all their work through this process. The representative for the Embree Group thanked the BOS, P/A, and the Township Engineer for their help during this process. Mr. Brant stated that the Final Plan Resolution has been prepared for the Board's approval if they choose to do so. No questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the Final Plan Resolution for the Embree Group “Neighborhood Hospital” Project contingent upon complying with letters from Pennoni, MCPC, PMRPC letters and the Fire Plan. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Ms. Carpenter to accept the Solicitor Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Engineering Report – Khal Hassan, Pennoni Engineering

Bartman Ave/Holly Rd – Mr. Hassan stated that he completed the review of the traffic study given by Chief Templin and found no safety issues. There may be a need for additional speed limit signs from Rt. 73 to Holly Road. The study showed that 85% of the traffic was between 23-27mph, no traffic calming measures are required. I can work with the Highway Department with additional speed limit signs and locations. A resident asked when was the study performed, Mr. Hassan replied 2018. Mr. Stouch asked Chief Templin when was the last time that you were out at that location, Chief Templin replied that they recently had a traffic enforcement patrol there. A resident asked when can a new study be done because the last one was 4 years ago. Mr. Stouch said there will be a new development on Holly Road and a 4-way intersection & crosswalks will be installed at Industrial Drive, also the speed limit will be decreased to make the speed limit uniform (25mph) for both Holly Road and Bartman Avenue. Chief Templin said that the 2018 study was one week long and 27mph was the

maximum speed recorded. Mr. Hassan said another study would cost a few thousand dollars and a period of weeks to complete. A resident said they recall that when that study was in progress we had bad weather that may have attributed to the lower speeds. Mr. Stouch said we will have a staff meeting to get some costs and suggestions on what to do, the resident complained about tractor trailers using that road. Mr. Hassan said we cannot restrict local truck traffic between the business centers located at each end of the roadway. The signs may have to be removed if un-enforceable. No other comments were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

GF&R Report/GACAS Report/Bally Ambulance Report

Written reports are available in lobby. Mr. Duncan gave a brief overview of the February 2023 Monthly Report for Gilbertsville Fire & Rescue. Ms. Stouch gave a brief overview of the February 2023 GACAS Monthly Report, and Ms. Groff gave a brief overview of the February 2023 Bally Ambulance Monthly Report. Mr. Duncan gave an overview of the ESB Minutes from the March 13th, 2023 Meeting. No questions were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Ms. Carpenter to approve the GF&R, GACAS, and Bally Ambulance Reports as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

ESB Meeting – Minutes of March 13th, 2023 (Approval by BOS)

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to approve the minutes of the March 13th, 2023 ESB Meeting. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Public Works – Mike Heydt

Award bids for road paving work & equipment rentals - Mr. Heydt said he received 1 bid from Sacks & Sons in the amount of \$34,880.00. Mr. Heydt recommended that the bid be awarded to Sacks & Sons.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to award the 2023 Road Paving Work & Equipment Rental Bid to Sacks & Sons for \$34,880.00. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Authorization to extend AMS Contract for 1 year for Tar & Chipping – Mr. Heydt asked for authorization to extend the AMS Contract for 1 year (2023) for Tar & Chipping.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to authorize the extension of the AMS Tar & Chipping Contract for 1 year (2023). Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Ms. Carpenter to accept the Public Works Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Manager's Report – Andrew Duncan

1. Schedule of Meetings:

- a. Monday April 3rd, 2023 BOS Agenda Meeting @ 6:30m, BOS Meeting @ 7:00pm, Thursday April 13th, 2023 P/A Meeting @ 7pm – **Workshop @ 6:30pm** (Zoning updates & E. Philadelphia Avenue mailbox discussions).
2. Rt. 100 Corridor – Market Street Committee (Schedule Meetings in 2023)
3. Lighting Ordinance & Sign Ordinance – P/A recommended approval to BOS for review, MCPC is finishing their final reviews (April 2023)

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Ms. Carpenter to accept the Manager's Report as presented. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

Old Business/New Business

No old business or new business was given.

Public Comment

Mr. Gotlieb was present representing his client who was an officer that was injured in an incident in New Hanover Township. Mr. Gotlieb wanted his client's bills reimbursed and an amended W-2 form in order for his client to file taxes regarding this incident. Mr. Brant stated that there was an Executive Session this evening, a Heart and Lung claim was approved and the issue will be resolved as quickly as possible. No other comments were given.

A motion was made by Mr. Stouch, seconded by Mr. Keiser to adjourn the meeting at 8:09pm. Keiser-Aye, Stouch-Aye, Carpenter-Aye. Motion passed.

The next Board of Supervisor's Meeting will be held on Monday, April 3rd, 2023 @ 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marcy Meitzler



Gilbertsville Fire and Rescue Company

Monthly Fire Report

February 2023

Incidents by type:

111 - Building fire: 5

131 - Vehicle Fire: 1

142 - Brush Fire: 1

311 - Medical Assist: 1

322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries: 5

551 - Assist police or other governmental agency: 6 (Fire Police Call)

571 - Standby / Relocate : 1

745 - Fire alarm: 3

900 - Special type of incident: 1 (Assist police department on welfare check)

Total Incidents for February 2023: 24

Fire Company in Service Time: 54 hours, 1 minutes

Call total for 2023: 52 (55 in 2022)

Fire Company in Service Time Year to Date: 157 Hours, 38 Minutes

(2022 - 176 Hours, 11 Minutes)

Response per Municipality:

Douglass Township Montgomery: 9

Upper Pottsgrove: 5

Colebrookdale Township (Berks County): 5

Douglass Township (Berks County): 1

Boyertown Borough (Berks County): 1

New Hanover Township: 2

Lower Pottsgrove: 1

Training:

Engineers night / Equipment Checks

Acquired Structure Training - Upper Frederick Township

Mayday Training / After Action Reports

Haz Mat Operations Refresher - practical

Events:

SPORTSMAN FIREARM ONLINE RAFFLE

Sportsman Firearm Online Raffle is currently running until all 150 tickets are sold:

<https://givebutter.com/UIQ88O?fbclid=IwAR2-XijVJk5uUZq14ZzvB6c1MhBekFSeNth5f1kWbG-JuCbTogp6bCohtQ>

FOOD TRUCKS AND OPEN HOUSE EVENT

Food Trucks and Open House Event at Gilbertsville Fire and Rescue is gearing up for its next food truck event on Saturday April 29, 2023 from 4PM to 8PM. Contact us for more details and to reserve your spot at eventsgrfc@gmail.com or leave us a message at 610-367-0277.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrew A. Duncan

Andrew A. Duncan
Chief of Fire Operations
Gilbertsville Fire and Rescue

Zone Breakdown

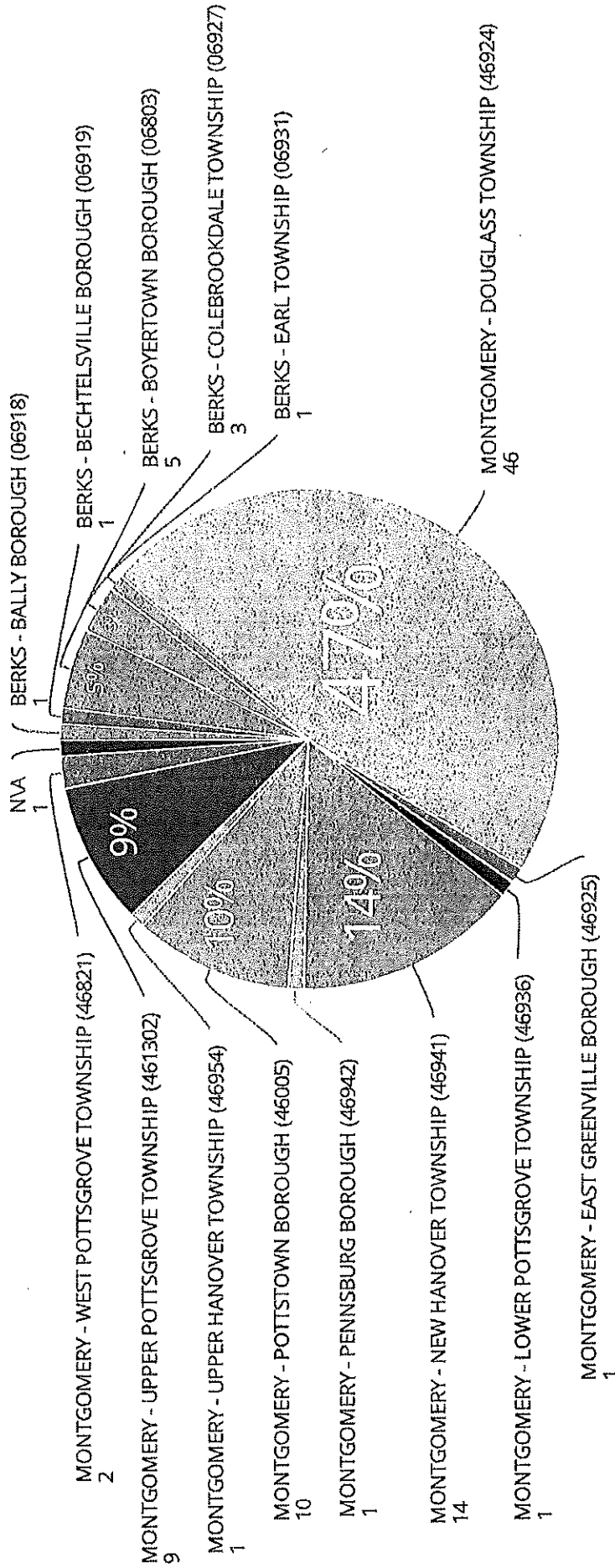
Mar 6, 2023 6:12:02 PM EMS

FEB 2023

Filter statement

Filters: Days in Dispatched 2/1/23 to 2/28/23 Is Active filtered with custom filter

Zone Chart



Zone Breakdown

Mar 6, 2023 6:12:02 PM EMIS

Filter statement

Filters : Days in Dispatched 2/1/23 to 2/28/23 : Is Active filtered with custom filter

Total Calls for the month

Total Calls for the Month

97

Zone Breakdown

Mar 6, 2023 6:12:02 PM EMS

Filter statement

Filters: Days in Dispatched 2/1/23 to 2/28/23 Is Active filtered with custom filter

Total ALS Calls

Total ALS Calls
50

BLS total calls

Total BLS calls
37

Total Agency, Assist Calls

Total Agency, Assist Calls
2

Zone Breakdown

Mar 6, 2023 6:12:02 PM EVIS

Filter statement

Filters Days in Dispatched 2/1/23 to 2/28/23 Is Active filtered with custom filter

Incident Numbr

Scene Zone	# of unique Incident Number
BERKS - BALLY BOROUGH (06918)	1
BERKS - BECHTELVILLE BOROUGH (06919)	1
BERKS - BOYERTOWN BOROUGH (06803)	5
BERKS - COLEBROOKDALE TOWNSHIP (06927)	3
BERKS - EARL TOWNSHIP (06931)	1
MONTGOMERY - DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP (46924)	46
MONTGOMERY - EAST GREENVILLE BOROUGH (46925)	1
MONTGOMERY - LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP (46936)	1
MONTGOMERY - NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP (46941)	14
MONTGOMERY - PENNSBURG BOROUGH (46942)	1
MONTGOMERY - POTTSTOWN BOROUGH (46005)	10
MONTGOMERY - UPPER HANOVER TOWNSHIP (46954)	1
MONTGOMERY - UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP (461302)	9
MONTGOMERY - WEST POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP (46821)	2
N/A	1

Bally Community Ambulance Association Municipality Report – March 2023

FEB 2023

Date From: 02/01/2023
Date To: 02/28/2023

ALL by Municipality

<u>Group</u>	<u>Count</u>	<u>Pct</u>
Bally, Berks	14	10.1
Bechtelsville, Berks	4	2.9
Boyertown, Berks	4	2.9
Colebrookdale (Township of), Berks	3	2.2
District (Township of), Berks	9	6.5
Douglass (Township of), Montgomery	9	6.5
East Greenville, Montgomery	1	0.7
Hereford (Township of), Berks	37	26.8
Longswamp (Township of), Berks	2	1.4
New Hanover (Township of), Montgomery	1	0.7
Pennsburg (RR name Pennsburg-East Greenville), Montgomery	4	2.9
Pike (Township of), Berks	2	1.4
Red Hill, Montgomery	2	1.4
Upper Hanover (Township of), Montgomery	7	5.1
Washington (Township of), Berks	39	28.3
Total:	138	

Criteria

Date From: 02/01/2023
Date To: 02/28/2023
Rows: Outcome
Cols: Shift

	<u>Day Shift</u>	<u>Night Shift</u>	<u>Second Truck ALS/BLS</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cancelled	5	3	0	8
Lift Assist	8	6	0	14
No Patient Found	3	4	0	7
Patient Dead at Scene-Resuscitation Attempted without transport	1	0	0	1
Patient Refused Care	3	0	0	3
Standby- fire scene or other	1	0	0	1
Treated and released	0	1	0	1
Treated, Transported ALS	51	23	0	74
Treated, Transported BLS	14	13	2	29
Total:	86	50	2	138

- 9 EMS Calls in Douglass Twp for the month of February
- Call volume is up year over year (By 10 calls)
- 103 EMS calls resulted in patient transport to an emergency department

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael B. Groff NRP, FP-C
Chief of Operations
Bally Community Ambulance Association

The meeting of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:04PM. Members in Attendance were Supervisor Sara Carpenter, Supervisor Joshua Stouch, Township Manager Peter Hiryak and Township Treasurer Cindy O'Donnell. Also in attendance were Emergency Services Board members including Fire Chief Andrew Duncan, EMS Interim Chief John Doucette, Police Chief Barry Templin, Rick Smith, David Yusko, Kim Stouch, Don Bergstresser and 8 residents.

Chairman Joshua Stouch started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Joshua Stouch turned the meeting over to Chairman of the Emergency Services Board Andrew Duncan

FIRE –

- a. Lease agreement has been submitted to township solicitor for legal review.
- b. Fire Prevention and Fire Protection Ordinance has been submitted to township solicitor for legal review.
- c. Chief Duncan reported that crews from Station 67, Douglass Police and Gilbertsville Ambulance responded to a violent crash on Gilbertsville Road Sunday evening. He stated that the crews worked flawlessly in the high stress environment. The incident included an unconscious patient that had to be flown by helicopter. Chief Duncan commended all crews on scene.
- d. Chief Duncan introduced to the Board of Supervisors Pennsylvania Act 172 of 2016. Act 172 is Pennsylvania law that allows a volunteer firefighter tax credit. Municipalities may offer a local real estate tax credit and/or a local earned income tax credit to volunteer firefighters that live in the township. Act 172 also allows the school district and Montgomery County to also give tax credit to local volunteers as well, however, the fire company would have to solicit this tax incentive through those entities separately.

This incentive program would carry a point system to encourage our current volunteer firefighters to become more active to maintain their eligibility to receive tax credits. A person would not be able to join the organization and automatically be eligible for tax credits. A person would have to meet certain criteria and meet a certain level of service before being eligible. Chief Duncan stated that many other municipalities have adopted this program throughout the State. Supervisor Carpenter asked who would be responsible for administering eligibility and reporting to the municipality for this program? Chief Duncan stated that the Fire Chief would be responsible for reporting eligibility and this program is guided by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development as well as guidance from PSATS. Township Treasurer Cindy O'Donnell stated that she has experience with this program from working in Upper Frederick and Lower Frederick Township. They both offered this program to their volunteers. Supervisor Carpenter asked how much this program would cost to implement? Chief Duncan said that he has not had an opportunity just yet to put together numbers but can get an estimate for the Board to review in the near future.

Chief Duncan stated that he will obtain more information about the program and get answers to some of the questions that the board may have for the next Emergency Services Board meeting.

POLICE –

- a. Creation and implementation of Body Camera Policy is completed. Training of the body camera functions and policy has been completed. Officers have placed the body cameras in service. Chief Templin hopes that the body cameras offer transparency and will act as a de-escalation tactic for both officers and the public if they know that they are being recorded.
- b. Knox Box policy is complete and will be implemented by the Board of Supervisors after the Fire Prevention and Fire Protection ordinance is adopted.
- c. Chief Templin stated that Officer Castellucci has received his train the trainer certification to become a handcuffing and de-escalation training officer for the department.
- d. Chief Templin touched on current staffing. Officer Poux has been extended an additional 4 weeks by his doctor from his work related injury. Detective Evans suffered a non work related injury that may require surgery or rehabilitation. Chief Templin stated that we did not replace Officer Mathias when he retired last year. Chief Templin stated that he is currently on the schedule to cover some shifts already over the next few weeks. Chief Templin asked the Board of Supervisors to consider starting the hiring process for a new police officer. Supervisor Stouch asked Chief Templin how long the hiring process will take. Chief Templin stated that it is about a 6 month process from the time of advertisement, interviewing candidates and selecting the officer. Supervisor Carpenter asked if this was a budgeted expense in 2023. Treasurer O'Donnell stated that it was not a budgeted expense, but there was discussions in the 2023 budget meetings about revisiting the earned income line in the budget mid-year to see if hiring a police officer would be possible. Due to the current staffing of the police department and injuries that currently exist, Supervisor Stouch would like to explore starting the hiring process of a new police officer. ESB Chairman recommended to the Board of Supervisors to place this on the Board of Supervisors agenda for March 20, 2023. This will allow the full board to discuss and take action if they choose. Supervisor Stouch made a motion to have this placed on the March 20, 2023 Board of Supervisors Agenda. Second by Supervisor Carpenter. All in favor.
- e. Chief Templin stated that there was an incident on Sunday involving one of our recognized township tow companies. There was a serious vehicle accident on Gilbertsville Road that is being investigated and could potentially become a fatal accident. With this information in mind, the Officer in Charge had contacted another tow company for the removal of the vehicles. This tow company offers indoor storage for vehicles, our recognized tow companies in the township do not currently offer this service. The on call tow operator had driven to the scene, which was an active crime scene and approach the officer in charge to question why the on duty tow company was not being used for the removal of the crashed vehicles. Chief Templin noted that this tow operator was not called to the emergency scene, he arrived on his own. The Officer in Charge explained to the tow operator what was being completed and why a different company was used. The tow operator then went to leave the scene, but before doing so turned around and gave all of the responders on scene the middle finger. Chief Templin would like to remove this township recognized tow company from the tow rotation immediately. Supervisor Stouch made a motion to support Chief

March 13th, 2023 Page 3

Templin in removing this company from the rotation effective immediately. Second by Supervisor Carpenter. All in favor.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/ZONING –

- a. Lehigh Valley Hospital – Grosser Road and Route 100 – Developer looking for final plan approval

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT –

- a. Tow Policy is currently under legal review.

EMS – EMS

- a. EMS Chief John Doucette presented his February 2023 Gilbertsville Ambulance report. 96 calls for the month, 50 were ALS calls, 37 were BLS calls. 46 calls for service in Douglass Township.
- b. STAFFING:
Currently 100% staffed.
- c. Membership Drive did go out at the end of February.
- d. February financial report will be submitted to the township tomorrow after the GACAS board meeting. Chief Doucette will also provide the letter of intent for their 2021 audit as soon as possible.
- e. Chief Doucette mentioned that there was a dispatching error made by Montgomery County last month that delayed an EMS response for almost an hour. The breakdown in communication occurred when a person had fallen and needed assistance getting up and dialed 911. The 911 dispatcher for the police department dispatched the police department, however they were on another call and did not respond unless requested, which is common practice. The EMS dispatcher never dispatched the ambulance to the address. Chief Doucette noted that the dispatcher that dispatches police and EMS are different, so there was a breakdown in communication. This incident was investigated by Chief Doucette and Chief Templin collectively to make sure that the error was not on the end of emergency services in Douglass Township. The County employ has been counseled and re-trained. Chief Doucette has made contact with the patient and has explained what happened.

Resident David Reinert made comment that he supports the EMS tax that was implemented to support EMS service in Douglass Township. He stated that for years we supported the fire company, its about time we take care of EMS as well. Mr. Reinert had some questions for Gilbertsville Ambulance in reference to their annual subscription letter.

Katie Groff from Bally Ambulance reported 138 calls for service for February. 9 of the calls for service were in Douglass Township.

Upcoming meeting dates for the Emergency Services Board:
Monday April 10, 2023 @ 6:00PM

The meeting was then turned back over to Chairman Joshua Stouch of the Douglass Township Board of Supervisors.

March 13th, 2023 Page 4

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS –

PUBLIC COMMENT –

- a. Resident Lamar Kolb asked a question about ambulance transports. The question was, if someone calls an ambulance, do they get to choose which hospital they want to go to? Chief Doucette responded that there are a number of factors that can determine this. Some of the factors could be the seriousness of the injury, if acute conditions exist, is the hospital being requested appropriate and can they treat the injury that the patient has, is the patient stable or unstable. Pennsylvania state protocols help guide EMS in these decisions as well.

A motion was made by Chairman Joshua Stouch, seconded by Supervisor Sara Carpenter to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT 7:07PM