

**UPPER MORELAND TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

January 22, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hotchkiss called a meeting of the Public Health & Safety Committee of the Board of Commissioners of Upper Moreland Township to order at 8:20 P.M.

ROLL CALL: Commissioner Hotchkiss, Chairman, took roll call. Present: Commissioners Lisa Romaniello and Joseph A. Lavallo.

Others: David Dodies, Township Manager, Anne Thornburg Weiss, Township Solicitor, Police Chief Thomas Nestel, III, representing the Police Department and Joseph O'Neill, Director of Emergency Services.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Comm. Hotchkiss accepted the minutes of the November 19, 2007 Public Health & Safety Committee meeting into the record as submitted and noted that there was no meeting in December, 2007.

REPORTS:

Police Department Report:

Commissioner Hotchkiss said included in the packet tonight were two reports from the Police Department; one from November and one for December. Commissioner Hotchkiss invited Chief Nestel to explain the new reports as they have a new look. Chief Nestel explained that the new reports give a comparison related to reported crime and proactive measures by the police. It also includes a comparison to last year's statistics in the same time frame. Commissioner Hotchkiss said that the proactive measures seemed to demonstrate how the police department is working towards keeping the Township safer and that he was very excited about that.

Department of Emergency Services:

Commissioner Hotchkiss said also included in the packet was the November and December 2007 Report from the Department of Emergency Services. Commissioner Hotchkiss said there was also a letter included in the packet to Mr. Matthews thanking him for reporting the Library fire. Mr. Matthews reported the fire in a timely manner and Mr. O'Neill wanted to recognize him for his community service.

OLD BUSINESS:

Commissioner Hotchkiss commented that the Chief of Police has requested additional time in which to research the outstanding traffic issues. Chief Nestel added that he would be fully prepared next month to brief the Commissioners on these outstanding issues.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution R-2007-26 – Adoption of Montgomery County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

Commissioner Hotchkiss requested that Joe O’Neill explain the resolution. Mr. O’Neill responded that the Montgomery County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan was finalized in March, 2007. It endeavors to municipalities and states responsible for hazard planning and addressing hazards that may come up. Each community had to recognize and report the hazards which most affected them. The entire plan is on line under the Montgomery County Planning Commission website. You can also view how each municipality, including our Township, rated natural hazards, and also includes goals and outstanding issues with flooding throughout the community. Commissioner Hotchkiss explained that the adoption of the plan is very important because it may be a requirement for future assistance. The Committee agreed to move this item for action at the next Regular Meeting on February 4, 2008.

VISITOR COMMENTS:

A resident, Orchard Way from Ward 5, commented that traffic safety is of key importance to the whole Township and he believes that installing a paving marking plan is a great idea and hopes that other areas of the Township will be included such as Mill Road, Newington Drive and Orangemans Road. He also hopes there is something in the works for detours. When there is a flooding issue, traffic gets detoured through neighborhoods and the traffic does not know where to go. He would like the Township to come up with some type of plan to alert the drivers of where they are to go so they are not driving aimlessly around the neighborhoods.

Commissioner Hotchkiss commented that that was one of the items brought to the Chief last month for review.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Romaniello asked Chief Nestel when the meeting would be to address the concerns of Woodlawn Park. The Chief responded that the meeting would take place on February 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., Council Room, Township Building.

Public Health & Safety Committee

January 22, 2008

ADJOURNMENT: 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Heinemann