

UPPER MACUNGIE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
&
SOUTH WHITEHALL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

A special joint meeting of the Upper Macungie Township Board of Supervisors and the South Whitehall Township Board of Commissioners was held on Thursday, October 16, 2014, at 6:30 PM, in the Upper Macungie Township Municipal Building, 8330 Schantz Road, Breinigsville, PA 18031. Those present were Upper Macungie Township Board Chairman, James M. Brunell; Vice Chairman, Samir P. Ashmar; Secretary, Kathy A. Rader; Township Manager, Daniel P. Olpere; Fire Commissioner, Grant Grim; and Solicitor, Andrew Schantz. From South Whitehall Township: Chairwomen, Christina Tori Morgan; Commissioners David Bond, Glenn Block, Thomas J. Johns; Emergency Management Coordinator, Jeff Kelly; HR Manager, Renee Bickel; and Solicitor, Joseph Zator. Also attending, Larry Wiersch from Cetronia Ambulance Corps.

UMT Chairman Brunell opened the meeting and asked all present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.

The purpose of this joint meeting was for the two townships to discuss the acquisition of an Incident Command Vehicle. Items discussed between the two townships included:

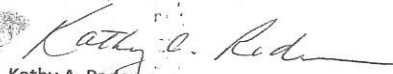
- The formal agreement between the two townships
- The likelihood of the vehicle to be dispatched out of the area
- Maintenance issues
- Fees if used at certain events
- Staffing Levels and the possibility of lack of volunteers on the weekend or during the day
- Funding

UMT residents Gary Bendix and Ryan Seckington questioned the need for this vehicle and if, in the alternative, Lehigh Valley Hospital's command unit could be used in an emergency. Also the flexibility of the township Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Most agreed that an Incident Command Vehicle was necessary for our area. A suggestion was made to meet with Lehigh County to discuss an upgrade to their vehicle. Another suggestion was made to involve Cetronia Ambulance Corps.

After much discussion, a "straw vote" was taken to see where the vote might be at this time...out of the seven township officials present: 3 "likely", 2 "unlikely", and 2 undecided. At that time it was decided to table this issue until Thursday, January 15, 2014, at 6:00 PM.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by UMT Chairman Brunell, seconded by UMT Secretary Rader and unanimous. Meeting is adjourned at 8:50 PM


Kathy A. Rader
Secretary