

**DOVER TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING  
WORK SESSION  
MINUTES  
September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

The Dover Township Board of Supervisors' Work Session Meeting for Monday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, was called to order at 6:15 PM by Vice-Chairperson Robert Stone in the Meeting Room of the Dover Township Municipal Building. Supervisors present were Stephen Parthree Charles Richards and Michael Cashman. Chairman Stephen Stefanowicz was absent with prior notice. Laurel Oswald, Township Manager, Charles Rausch; Township Solicitor, and Tiffany Strine; Township Secretary, were present. There were no citizens present. This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of minutes only.

**This work session is being held for the purposes of discussing Ambulance Services**

Manager Oswald stated this work session is being held to discuss ambulance services for Dover Township. Manager Oswald stated that Supervisor Charles Richards is the Dover Township Board of Supervisors liaison and that he regularly attends the Ambulance Club meetings. Recently, Ms. Peggy Anderson; Administrator for the Dover Ambulance met with Manager Oswald and Supervisor Richards to discuss medic services consisting of a Basic Life Support provided by an Emergency Medical Technician (BLS). Dover Ambulance does not provide a Paramedic (ALS). The local Paramedic comes from a chase unit that is housed the Dover Township Fire Department, by way of a lease. Medic 98 was funded by both York Hospital and Memorial Hospital for numerous years. A few years ago, Medic 98 became funded by only Memorial Hospital due to York Hospital leaving medic services.

During this change, there were concerns regarding what may happen to paramedic service in the Dover Township community and consideration was given to Dover Ambulance taking financial responsibility for ALS services. Memorial Hospital made it known at that time that Memorial Hospital would absorb the extra expense and the issue seemed resolved. Recently, Memorial Hospital was bought out by Pinnacle Health.

Manager Oswald and C. Richards informed the Board of Supervisors that ambulance services have been an issue all over Pennsylvania.

C. Richards agreed with Manager Oswald's views on this matter and had indicated that this disorder may pose a largely negative impact on the community. C. Richards stated that he felt this issue needed to be brought to the attention of the Dover Township Board of Supervisors.

Manager Oswald addressed points to consider regarding this issue including costs involved with placing Paramedic services on Dover Ambulance equipment. Ms. Anderson provided a shortened synopsis of the ramifications, if the dissolution of Paramedic services were to occur. Community Life Team; also known as Pinnacle Health or Medic 98, would charge a fee of thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per hour for a Paramedic services on a Dover Ambulance. Community Life Team provided Ms. Anderson with a sample agreement for these services. Ms.

Anderson has also reached out to White Rose for their services and received quotes on their charges; however, has not received any form of a proposed contract with White Rose for their services.

C. Richards informed the Board of Supervisors that there have been known instances where ALS companies, have moved in and have bought out the local Ambulance Club and then after some time lapse, have decided to close down the service. This instance would leave communities with no form of even Basic Life Support, the necessary equipment for an Ambulance Club sold and no aide to residents. C. Richards stated that he has been made aware of these instances on many occasions within various communities.

Manager Oswald stated that it is her understanding that all the information being discussed tonight has not been proven certain at this time. Manager Oswald added that the information being supplied by Ms. Anderson, C. Richards and herself is all circumstantial at this point in time; however, all of these individuals feel it of the utmost importance to bring this information to the Board of Supervisors and to be proactive for the community and its residents.

Manager Oswald reached out to a Mr. Barry Albertson whom manages Community Life Team; also known as Pinnacle Health or Medic 98, and inquired about their lease and its potential dissolution.. Mr. Albertson stated that it makes sense for both an Emergency Medical Technician and a Paramedic to be on the same truck to provide service and there could potentially be a certain economic savings in doing so; however, Mr. Albertson added that Community Life Team is not going anywhere.

Manager Oswald stated that state of volunteer fire and our paid ambulance services need to be closely monitored and she feels that Dover Township needs to be proactive regarding options and consider the necessity of financial assistance that will in fact be needed if these services close.

S. Parthree inquired as to the current amount of what Community Life Team charges for their services. C. Richards stated that Community Life Team currently charges seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) for any dispatch. C. Richards added that the cost of the equipment on a truck for medical services and the medical personnel is where the most cost is incurred.

C. Richards stated that he personally feels that Dover Township should consider entering into the proposed contract with Community Life Team on a three (3) year basis and that Dover Township should then look into setting the medical services to the community for Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support. C. Richards would like for the Dover Ambulance to take on both of these levels of medical services.

R. Stone inquired if the Dover Borough would benefit from a combined medical service as well. C. Richards stated that they would benefit from this as well.

Manager Oswald stated that it was her understanding from Mr. Albertson that the proposed contract from Community Life Team is a way in which both the Ambulance Club and Community Life Team could work together.

Concern were addressed amongst Board of Supervisors members regarding the possible costs to be incurred with this issue amongst other Dover Township issues needing serious financial attention.

The potential for a tax increase to help mitigate for such services in Dover Township was discussed and not decided beneficial at this point in time. It was addressed that at this point in time; all potential issues are circumstantial and not of any current certainty. It was also added that consideration of an ambulance service tax may be required as well as whether the Township would want ownership of the ambulance services' equipment to create more of a Dover Township function and service over time.

S. Parthee inquired as to if there is any legal action preventing such medical services from leaving without notice. Manager Oswald stated that Community Life Team has to provide ninety (90) days under the provisions of their current lease before they can terminate their lease. Solicitor Rausch added that they can terminate their lease and still pay for rent of the area and not supply a truck for medical services. Solicitors Rausch added that there is no legal timeframe for providing medical services.

Manager Oswald stated at this time Ms. Anderson is also exploring various options to lower costs to the Dover Ambulance Club.

**After some discussion, the information provided is to be made known amongst the Dover Township Board of Supervisor for process and to possibly be prepared for a follow up meeting regarding these issues in the future should they arise. It was decided to have Manager Oswald contact Ms. Anderson to inform her that Dover Township is aware of her concern and at this time Dover Township will attempt to be prepared for possible issues should they arise.**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chairman Stone at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Tiffany Strine, Recording Township Secretary