

SOLEBURY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
April 5, 2016 – 11:00 A.M.
Solebury Township Hall

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Attendance: Helen Tai, Chair, James Searing, Vice-chair, Noel Barrett, Paul Cosdon and Kevin Morrissey. Dennis H. Carney, Township Manager and Jean Weiss, Administrative Assistant, were also in attendance.

The first topic discussed involved ambulance coverage. Mr. Cosdon noted that a total of \$100,000 has been allocated over each of the past three years, distributed as follows:

\$17,500 to the Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance & Rescue Squad;
\$82,500 to the Central Bucks Ambulance Emergency Medical Services.

Mr. Cosdon added that victims requiring on-going life support systems are transported to St. Mary's Trauma Unit.

Central Bucks Ambulance is capable of offering advanced life support service but does not offer simple transport service from Eagle. Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance offers basic life support services only and transport. Therefore, often the two companies respond to the same incident. The Lambertville-New Hope Ambulance cannot provide advance life support in PA even though New Jersey's requirements are stricter than Pennsylvania's.

Possible alternative to consider: Moving the Central Bucks Ambulance service out of New Hope and into Solebury, with possible locations of Township Hall or the building on Laurel Road, which would have to be upgraded.

Subscribers are not charged for transport by Central Bucks Ambulance. A discussion should take place with Central Bucks Chief Charles Pressler regarding the number of Solebury subscribers currently registered.

Mr. Cosdon pointed out that under a new state law, the patient pays the ambulance company directly, and the insurance company will reimburse the patient. As a result, Central Bucks Ambulance has suffered a decrease in collections.

Mr. Searing stated that the state will likely be making more funding cuts in future years, mainly to ambulance services.

Mr. Carney suggested that the Township may want to consider enacting an EMS tax as a possible way to fund ambulance services.

The second topic discussed was the New Hope Crushed Stone Quarry. Mr. Morrissey stated that the Board needs to have a general consensus on its position.

Discussion ensued regarding short term goals and strategies to consider.

The Board members expressed support for Short Term Goal #2, and Strategy #2 to coordinate and encourage transition of the quarry property.

It would be beneficial to get input from the quarry owner on future property uses. The Board directed Mr. Carney to have the Township Engineer to provide an estimate as to buildable acreage involved on the site, noting that the quarry hole involves approximately 80 acres.

The work session was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Dennis H. Carney
Township Manager