

**MINUTES  
COUNCIL WORK SESSION  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
JANUARY 23, 2017**

**A.) OPENING CEREMONIES & ROLL CALL**

The regular scheduled Work Session Meeting of the Monroe Township Council was called to order by **Council President, Bart McIlvaine** at approximately **7:02 PM** in the Conference Room on the first floor of the Municipal Complex, located at 125 Virginia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey.

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (*NJSA 10:4-6 thru 10:4-21*). Notices were placed in the official publications for Monroe Township (i.e.: South Jersey Times, Courier Post and the Sentinel of Gloucester County). A copy of that notice has been posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex.

**SALUTE TO OUR FLAG** – Cncl. Miller led the Assembly in the Salute to Our Flag.

**ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS**

Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present	
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Cncl. Ron Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. Bob Heffner	Present	
Cncl. Joe Marino	Present	
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
Cncl. Pres., Bart McIlvaine	Present	
Mayor, Daniel Teefy	Present	
Business Admin., Kevin Heydel	Present	(Arrived 7:10PM)
Solicitor, Charles Fiore	Present	
Engineer, Kathryn Cornforth, ARH	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present	
Dir. of Code Enforcement, George Reitz	Present	
Dir. of Public Works, Mike Calvello		Excused
Dir. of Community Dev., Rosemary Flaherty	Present	
Deputy Mayor, Andy Potopchuk	Present	
Chief of Police, John McKeown	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

**B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**

- **Willowoods** – Replacement Bond Request

**Kathryn Cornforth, ARH** explained Richmond American Homes the developer for the Willowoods subdivision has requested the Performance Bonds currently in place be released. These bonds have been in place for a number of years and most of the improvements have been installed. They are looking to restructure by having all ten (10) sections released and instead will post a full Performance Guarantee for any work that remains outstanding. The work includes a minor punch list containing some minor concrete work here and there, and all intersection improvements to Mannington Drive where water was being held as well as the full re-milling and paving of that roadway. ARH reviewed this request and does not

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**B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION (cont'd)**

see a problem with it since they are offering to post a bond on anything that is not done so the township will still have protection if that route is taken. The estimate in the recommendation states the bond would be a little over \$300,000.00 and that would be in place until all work is completed and accepted by ARH and the township. Richmond American Homes would still be responsible for everything throughout the development such as snow plowing. When they go to maintenance they want to post a maintenance bond just for recent work not for the work that has been in place for a number of years. Any issues that could develop would be on the current punch list and the township will get a two year maintenance bond on those items. **Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** questioned if there was a downside to not accepting this. Ms. Cornforth replied yes. The bonds they have in place are in the \$3,000,000.00 range and they pay a premium to renew those bonds every year so their position was if the township does not let them restructure they will look to repave Mannington Drive and finish out the punch list as soon as possible. Whereas, if they are permitted to restructure it will free up money for them in bonding capacity and they will wait until spring to finish the work, which means we will be guaranteed favorable weather. ARH told them it was Council's decision and if they chose not to release the bonds and they decided to move ahead with the paving they risk ARH and the township not accepting that work. **Mayor Teefy** noted he was in favor of this as it would allow Mannington Drive to be paved properly. **Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** polled Council and all were in favor of releasing the current bonds to allow Richmond American Homes to restructure. Ms. Cornforth noted they also questioned whether the Developer's Agreement would need to be revised. **Solicitor Fiore** advised we would amend the bond as well as the Developer's Agreement as that would be added protection. **Cncl. Marino** questioned the time period for their maintenance bond. Ms. Cornforth explained it would be in the amount of 15% of the cost of the improvements for a two year time frame from the date of posting. She added the Mayor's Office may be getting complaints about the condition of the development because there is a big excavator and some construction materials in a staging area on the Atlantic City Electric easement off Mannington Drive. Tomorrow ARH will be putting them on notice that they need to clean that up if Council is to move forward with this at the next Council Meeting. **Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** requested Mr. Fiore draft the necessary resolutions for the February 13<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

**C.) PUBLIC PORTION**

**Cncl. Miller** made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**Matt Mills**, Captain of the Rescue Squad of the Monroe Township Ambulance and Rescue Association was in attendance to address the Mayor and Council regarding the rescue truck being moved to the Williamstown Fire Department. He noted a letter was sent ten days ago to the Mayor, Council and other public officials requesting a meeting and to date no response has been received. He received a letter from the Mayor addressing some of the issues but there was not a lot of specific information included in it just a few examples in regards to response issues. Mr. Mills distributed a fact sheet to the Mayor and Council that

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**C.) PUBLIC PORTION (cont'd)**

addressed their concerns regarding staffing, training, response time and the reasons why the rescue vehicles should remain under the EMS department. Mr. Mills noted the Association purchased the rescue truck from their money as well as donations and has about \$90,000.00 in that vehicle. In 1998 the Association had financial difficulties and approached Council to request the township's financial help and the township did pay for about half of the vehicle. Mr. Mills expressed his concern that there was no transition period given prior to the rescue truck being moved. The Chief and paid EMS Supervisor were called to a meeting at town hall and during that time the truck was moved. No prior notice was given and there was no meeting to address any issues or response time the department had. After the truck was moved it went out on a call and the Association is curious to know how those responding to that call had time to find out where all the equipment is located and how to operate the specific equipment on that vehicle. Mr. Mills noted after reviewing the information in the letter and our response times for various calls it does not seem to match the information provided to the township regarding our rescue response so we were hoping to address that to figure out what the issues might be. He noted the Association did not speak to the Council regarding this issue and only spoke to the Mayor during that fifteen minute meeting. **Mayor Teefy** stated he appreciated the members of the Ambulance & Rescue Association coming out. He explained he has been busy getting information together to respond to their OPRA request but he will meet with them to go over the County statistics and data regarding EMS/Rescue calls. The County data shows there were four did not responds, one glaring twenty-five minute response time on November 4<sup>th</sup> for a call by the Best Western and another where rescue did not respond to a 2:00 AM call on Corkery and the Black Horse Pike due to a manpower issue. Washington Township came in and handled that call. About an hour later a rescue and two ambulances were requested for a crash at the intersection of Main Street and Sicklerville Road. The rescue truck didn't go out because the rescue crew staffed the second ambulance. The Mayor noted this is showing there is a lack of manpower. Twenty of the forty-three members that took calls last year do 70% of the work and that is a strain on the Association. The Mayor noted his decision was based on missed calls and late response times. He noted Mr. Mills is saying 100% of the calls were made but one of them had a response time of 25 minutes. Mr. Mills noted he reviewed the County's numbers and the dispatch time and arrival on scene are the same time. Mr. Mills noted the County does not always get their information correct and when the Association looked at that call we saw the arrival time was the same as the in route time and that is not possible. Cncl. Miller noted the time was actually 28 minutes not 25. The County also recalled because an officer at the scene did the extrication or door pop and there have been instances where the rescue did not show up for 15 or 18 minutes but that does not show in the data because it is shown as a recall. Mr. Mills noted there are calls like that for every branch of service. Everyone has a bad day and everyone gets tight on personnel and both fire departments have had similar issues with personnel. He noted because we had one bad call is it really a benefit to give rescue to another department for them to worry about. That call was in October but no one ever sat down with the Association to discuss what was going on in the department at that time. He went on to explain that if the rescue truck shows up with one man but there are two other ambulances there it means there are five trained rescue/EMS members at the scene. It doesn't matter how they get there, just that there are personnel there to assist. He explained company memos state the first two people responding take the rescue truck and

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**C.) PUBLIC PORTION (cont'd)**

everybody else responds in an ambulance because when someone is entrapped that patient can't go anywhere until the rescue cuts them out and then the ambulance is waiting to transport the patient. He noted the fire company will do the same thing. They will not pile five guys on the rescue truck and not bring a fire truck for water in case there is a fire. Mr. Mills commented that he has not received the information from his OPRA request yet so he may only be dealing with half a deck of cards here. He questioned by rescue being under the fire department will there be an improvement; will the staffing and response time be better. Mayor Teefy noted that will play out over time as the fire department handles it. He added rescue is 24 – 7 and from what he was told the paid crew contacts the fire department to handle rescue during the day. He added his decision to move the truck was not made in haste, as the issue with rescue has been ongoing for years. Mr. Mills noted some of the paid crew are members of the fire department and it is no secret that there has been a feud over the rescue truck since at least 2012. When the paid crew needs assistance they decide who to call and there have been numerous times we sat down with the paid supervisor to ask why our rescue is not being dispatched to those calls. Cncl. Miller felt it was because of manpower during the day. He added he tries to be unbiased as possible but there have been times when there have been four engines on location, two establishing an LZ and the fire company must wait for the rescue to arrive because they do not have the proper equipment to extricate a person. That has not happened just one or two times it has happened on numerous occasions and it is not just something that has occurred recently it has consistently happened in the past. The fire company traditionally arrives on location first and are the ones people on scene are screaming at to do something and that is a severe public safety issue. Mr. Mills noted there are things that play into this such as the rescue truck is the oldest vehicle in the town and doesn't drive over 50 miles an hour so it takes ten minutes to get it there depending on the location of the call. There are also instances when ambulances have been the first on scene at fires where people are trapped in a house and we don't have the equipment to help them. He spoke of a call at Justin Commons where only one firefighter showed up on the fire truck. Everyone knows that if that fire truck had to be used that one person could not operate the fire truck but that is not being said here. He added he understands that no one here is trying to be bias as a member of the fire department but we have members that are dedicated to serving and we are running into this uphill battle with the fire department and there is no remediation to it. Mayor Teefy noted we held three meetings to go over the response time for EMS and it seems that when EMS has a call they are pulling from the same group of people. He questioned the process when a call is received for a second ambulance. Mr. Mills explained an all call goes out. There is one set of tones for the duty crew, a separate set of tones for all calls and a third set for the rescue team because a majority of the rescue team only does rescue. Mr. Mills commented Council told them the rescue truck was not going anywhere so don't worry about it and then we started hearing rumors and within two weeks it was moved and he had to send emails out to the members saying we no longer do rescue. Mayor Teefy noted the Association had 2495 calls in 2016 and that is commendable. Out of those calls 197 went to mutual aid and 276 were never put into the charts so we are not getting funding for them. Mr. Mills noted every town has problems handling EMS calls. We have vastly improved our service from November until now by bringing on twelve to fifteen new members to our station. Six are EMTs and another six went to the rescue team. A schedule was created for rescue and people were showing up every night even though the

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**C.) PUBLIC PORTION (cont'd)**

truck wasn't there. He spoke of having crews for three ambulances and the rescue vehicle staffed in station for an entire weekend during a storm, how the solution they create to address problems was beginning to work and how they respond to more calls outside of Monroe Township than outside agencies have handled in Monroe Township. The Mayor questioned if crossing borders was part of the problem. Mr. Mills explained there are not enough ambulances to go around. Some nights we may have one call but other nights like tonight by 7:00 PM we have handled four calls already. It does not pay to staff four ambulances around the clock because then you are losing money but there are those few times when you need four but you never know when that will be. He noted right now we also have four hospitals on divert because they cannot keep up. **Cncl. Heffner** questioned of the twelve new members how many of them live in Monroe Township. Mr. Mills noted four or five. The rescue team is required to run a twelve hour rescue duty shift each week that they work around their ambulance duty shift plus they come to training, drills, take the rescue truck to events and hold demonstrations at the high school. **Cncl. Miller** questioned why it took so long to respond to the Best Western call if there was a crew in the station. Mr. Mills explained at that time we had an ambulance crew in the station but there was no rescue duty shift. After meetings were held to discuss that incident somewhere around mid-December is when the rescue schedule was filled in. Mayor Teefy noted the report he is looking at says there were four no responds between December and January. Mr. Mills felt there could be a variety of reasons why the rescue truck did not respond such as another vehicle could have been used to get manpower to the scene since the rescue truck is slow. **Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** questioned whether anyone else had any questions for Capt. Mills because this discussion seemed to be turning into a debate and he didn't want that. Mayor Teefy questioned whether Mr. Mills knew where two pieces of electronic equipment purchased last year for rescue was because they were missing from the truck and he emailed the Chief last week to ask about this and has received no response. Mr. Mills commented that he requested Chief Murray to meet with the members over the last two weeks but he has been too busy to meet with them. **Cncl. DiLucia** commented that public safety is the number one issue in making a decision on this. Statistics were presented to Council but from what he heard there seems to be a misinterpretation in the responses presented from the County. He questioned if Capt. Mills felt the residents were safe when the rescue truck was under his control and whether there were any instances where lives were put in jeopardy. Capt. Mills felt the residents were safe under the rescue squad's control. He added in regards to the delayed call at the Best Western from what he has been told the patient's condition was so critical that there was nothing that could have been done. He added the rescue team maintains the equipment, trains on a regular bases, participates in all township events or demos just for extra practice and tries to come up with every possible way to ensure crews are available to staff the truck. The rescue team does more than extricate people from cars. Last year the rescue team responded with their marine unit to recover a young boy who drowned in the quarry. **Cncl. DiLucia** noted Capt. Mills commented several times that this process lacked mediation and he questioned if that met the process lacked discussion before action was taken. Capt. Mills stated that is correct. **Cncl. DiLucia** felt it was impossible for him, based on the information he has been given, to make any kind of intelligent decision about whether the Association has done a good, bad or mediocre job. He suggested discussion take place between the decision makers and the Association based on the facts that give rise to this.

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**C.) PUBLIC PORTION (cont'd)**

Capt. Mills agreed; noting he would like to discuss the thousands of calls a year the Association handles compared to five or six hundred the fire company handles. Cncl. DiLucia commented he didn't need to be convinced how important the ambulance services are. He has seen the number of calls they handle, the amount of revenue being brought into this town and they did a great job when called to his home. It is not a matter of being capable it is a matter of geographically where the members live and whether the organization can continue to provide the services to make this town safe like it has in past years. There are records to indicate what has happened on every call and if what Capt. Mills is saying is correct and the Township's records are incorrect that will come out in the discussion. Capt. Mills questioned if he could get a brief explanation about the truck being moved and placed in service immediately. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine stated this was not the venue for that and suggested Capt. Mills have a personal discussion with the Mayor on that since he is the one who made the decision. Mayor Teeffy questioned if they could meet on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 in the Mayor's Conference Room and if anyone from Council wanted to be there they could also attend. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine noted the Public Safety Committee has done their due diligence but if anyone else from Council wanted to attend to get the same information the committee received they could. Cncl. DiLucia noted he has no problem with the decisions of the Public Safety Committee so there was no need for him to be there. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine noted the Public Safety Committee met three times regarding the ambulance services. This came to light when we were approached by the fire chief, members of his organization as well as the Public Safety Director because the guys were getting exhausted running lift assist calls that the rescue squad were not responding to. He noted Director Smart can fill everyone in on the facts. More than due diligence has been given here but it seems they believe there is a coup by Williamstown Fire Company and by our Director to take their rescue truck. This was supposed to be done by the previous mayor but it wasn't due to their senior members not being able to get into the fire company because of the 45 year old age limit. Several meetings have been held to discuss this and afterwards he was told the only reason those meetings were held was to chastise the Ambulance Association but nothing could be further from the truth. He added he asked them what they needed and Capt. Mills said one thing and Frank McLaughlin, who oversees the volunteers said something else. Capt. Mills noted Frank McLaughlin does not oversee the volunteers of the ambulance or rescue; he is a paid EMS supervisor. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine noted then he is mistaken but he was instructed that Frank oversees the paid and Tom Accoglio the ambulance chief. He noted this was not a coup to take the rescue truck from the Association that had it since its inception but services must be provided and they were not when the fire company has to do lift assists. Capt. Mills commented that the Association does do lift assists but he can't help it when certain crews call for the fire company to assist. He added it feels like a coup because the fire chief came to three meetings held to discuss ambulance services and said he wanted the rescue truck. He told that to the Public Safety Director and a Councilman who are both members of the fire department and then our truck was moved to the fire department, which seems unfair because we didn't have a meeting to discuss it. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine noted it was not a coup and he told the Association that we are in favor of you and that you exist as long as you want to but the problem is you are not getting the job done. He added you need to sit down and dispute this with the Mayor.

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**C.) PUBLIC PORTION (cont'd)**

With no one else wishing to speak **Cncl. Miller** made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**D.) NEW BUSINESS - None**

**E.) OLD BUSINESS**

**Cncl. Heffner** questioned what happened at the meeting regarding the Forest Hills gas lights. **Cncl. Miller** reported the meeting was productive. Questions were posed regarding the flow of gas, if there was a way to turn off the lamps during the day and if the township could actually service the lamps. He noted he contacted South Jersey gas regarding the questions and once their response is received another meeting will be held and we will come to Council with our assessment of the situation. **Cncl. DiLucia** added we specifically wanted to know if the Gas Company would allow us to buy parts and service the lamps ourselves as that would be a cost reduction approach. **Cncl. Heffner** noted he talked to Paul Zuccarino Vice-President of South Jersey Gas and the township can work on those lights if they go to the proper school to get certified and if the township assumes all responsibility including going back to the gas main. Those lights are hooked up to high pressure gas so this would be a giant insurance issue if the township wants to take on that responsibility. The only other way to go with this is if the township wants to buy the lights outright and the Gas Company will walk away from everything. He noted he didn't know who **Cncl. Miller** talked to but it doesn't go much higher than Paul. **Cncl. Heffner** noted another gas light was hit and demolished the other night so that will be presented to the Administration or Council as the cost to replace it will be \$3,000.00. He felt that light may not need to be replaced since there are five lights within a stones throw of each other. Council questioned if insurance would cover it. **Cncl. Heffner** explained the gas company has the insurance but they need to get the police report. **Cncl. DiLucia** questioned why the gas flow can't be turned off. **Cncl. Heffner** explained there is no igniter, it is a constant flame and it would cost a fortune to install igniters because then electric would need to be run. **Cncl. DiLucia** questioned if the cost of running the electric would be more than the cost of the gas to constantly run those lights. **Cncl. Heffner** explained electric voltage would be needed to automatically light the lamps and if the lamp would not light the gas will still be coming out. **Mr. Heydel** noted he attended the committee meeting at the request of **Cncl. Miller** and gave information that showed the average cost since 2010 is \$63,000.00 a year. He noted he just received a \$5,600.00 bill from South Jersey Gas for maintenance of the lights and then there is a bill for the gas which is over \$3,000.00 so for December the cost was \$8,600.00. **Cncl. Miller** noted he will schedule a meeting next week and hopefully by the next Council Meeting come forward with one or two options.

**Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** questioned whether **Mr. Heydel** knew the status of the generator for Public Works. **Mr. Heydel** noted the Director of Public Works was looking into that but added the funding for that was never put in place last year so it will need to go

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**E.) OLD BUSINESS (cont'd)**

included in the 2017 Capital Budget. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine commented a generator is needed at Public Works because do get fuel and repair the equipment when the power goes out. Mr. Heydel noted we have WAWA cards for regular gas as a backup. **Deputy Mayor Potopchuk** noted the Director of Public Works is getting quotes on generators.

**F.) COMMITTEE REPORTS - None**

**G.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - 1/23/2017**

**Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** referred to the Temporary Budget Resolution R:63-2017 and explained the Police Department is seeking to purchase vehicles this year. **Mr. Heydel** added the State contract expires in March so we need to get the order in for five cars prior to March or we will not get any cars until the end of the year at the earliest. **Chief McKeown** added the same number of cars have been purchased for the last two or three years for the same dollar value. Last year we ordered the vehicles in June after the budget was adopted and we are just getting one of the cars outfitted for the road so if we wait until June again we will not have the cars until next year. **Cncl. Dilks** questioned whether the \$200,000.00 in the Temporary Budget included the cost of outfitting the cars. Mr. Heydel replied yes, the cost is generally \$40,000.00 a car.

**Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** noted he would like to bracket Resolutions R:49-2017 through R:60-2017 during the Regular Council Meeting.

**H.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED - 1/23/2017**

**Cncl. Heffner** advised Ordinance O:08-2017 (Affordable Housing) would be removed from the Regular Council Meeting agenda as more information is needed on this before it moves forward.

No questions were asked regarding ordinances listed on the agenda.

Prior to adjourning the meeting **Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine** apologized for what he called "*his lack of decorum*" during the public comments. He noted people are welcome to come here and speak but the questions asked this evening were all previously answered and they decided to go to the newspapers with it. Due diligence was given to these folks and if council has any questions they can contact him, Director Smart, Cncl. Heffner or Dilks regarding the Public Safety Committee Meetings. This was done for the safety of the people of Monroe Township and he sticks by the Mayor and his decision.

**Mayor Teefy** agreed with Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine and went on to say several meetings were held to discuss this and he did not want to go back and forth with them over this. After that November 4<sup>th</sup> accident a meeting was held on November 7<sup>th</sup> and it was decided that something needed to be done. This was not a decision made in haste. We wanted to be sure the fire department had members trained who could handle the rescue operation. **Cncl. DiLucia** noted the presentation made was that there were facts that disputed facts given to



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**H.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED - 1/23/2017**

the Mayor and it was implied there was a motive for this being done. What was said was the facts that were presented by the County are inaccurate, not that Council interpreted them inaccurately or manipulated them but that those facts were inaccurate in regards to what actually happened on the job. Cncl. DiLucia felt it was important for their facts to be reviewed so then we can say the decision we made was based on accurate facts or if they weren't then the issue warrants reconsideration. Cncl. Pres. McIlvaine noted he was 100% confident that the facts he received regarding their response time are real so he does not need to sit with him again. He noted the other members of Council can, if they want, sit with them to verify the decision made. Cncl. DiLucia felt it would be wrong for him to sit in that forum since he is not a member of the Public Safety Committee and he suggested the committee give them the opportunity to meet again to prove that they are right or wrong. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine noted we gave them many opportunities and he is personally finished giving them more opportunities but the other members of council can meet with them if they want.

**Director of Public Safety, Jim Smart** noted we pulled the data four different times last year. He added first of all the information comes from the County, it is not skewed by anyone. Secondly until you are out on the street and live and breathe this he doesn't even want to talk to you. Cncl. DiLucia questioned who Mr. Smart was referring to. Mr. Smart answered whoever is not out on the street. Cncl. DiLucia stated I am not out on the street and I will talk to you and you will talk to me as a Director. Mr. Smart replied yes, he would always talk to Cncl. DiLucia as he has always done. Cncl. DiLucia noted the man said the facts the County presented were inaccurate so why not let him prove it or not prove it. He questioned if a decision was made on inaccurate facts would Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine change his position. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine replied sure he would but he knows for a fact that they are not inaccurate so he is not willing to meet with them. **Cncl. Heffner** noted he will attend the meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine questioned whether that meeting involved the Public Safety Committee. Cncl. Heffner noted it was an invitation and he will be there. Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine noted these guys are very passionate but someone has to make a decision on this matter. No one wants to take the truck from those guys, including him, but a decision was made that should have been done a long time ago but wasn't because it has been a political hot potato. He spoke of hanging out at the ambulance hall when he was sixteen years and stated no one feels worse than he does over this and regardless of how they feel or how they treat him he promises and gives his word that due diligence was given to this decision. He added he promises everyone here and promises on his oath to the people of Monroe Township that this was the proper decision. It was not a coup by him, Jim Smart or the Fire Company. This truck was not getting out and the Fire Company was being burdened constantly. We would have done the same thing if rescue was responding to fire calls and the fire company was not showing up. In the past Cecil was not getting ambulances out so we made a decision and it was done. He noted as far as he is concerned the correct decision was made here and people have no idea how bad it hurt him to make it. Now it is done unless the Mayor changes his mind or something more comes to light. He added he has looked at these figures, dealt with the County and as a police officer has sat and waited for an ambulance or rescue to show up and none did. The Mayor made the decision with the Public Safety Committee's support. He added he does not know what else to say because he respects Cncl. DiLucia and the other members of council.

