

December 31, 2024

Board of Directors
Uwchlan Ambulance Corp.
70 West Welsh Pool Road
Exton, PA 19341

Re: The letter from Kathi Cozzone dated December 16, 2024

Dear Members of the Board:

We presume that you are aware of the letter, a copy of which is attached, in which Ms. Cozzone purports to provide 90-day notice to terminate Uwchlan Ambulance's status as a designated Emergency Services provider for West Vincent Township.

The Board of Supervisors of West Vincent Township are appalled at this approach to fund raising. The Board understands the challenges faced by ambulance companies, but municipalities also face numerous financial challenges.

West Vincent Township has very little commercial/industrial tax base, unlike West Whiteland, Uwchlan and Upper Uwchlan Townships. Because of this, its real estate tax is significantly higher than those municipalities which enjoy a more diversified tax base. This has placed constraints upon the Board not to raise existing taxes.

What you may not know is that the Township has had great difficulty over the past several months in having a fully functioning Board. In the October meeting, one Supervisor was in the hospital, and another participated in the meeting for a short time and then left for health reasons. That Supervisor entered the hospital the next day. The November meeting was not held for the lack of a quorum because two Supervisors were in the hospital. Two weeks before the December meeting, one of the Supervisors resigned for health reasons. That Supervisor was replaced at a special meeting the Thursday night before the December meeting. One of the two Supervisors participating at that meeting did so from his hospital bed. At the December meeting where Ms. Cozzone presented her letter, there was a brand new Supervisor and one additional Supervisor -- the third Supervisor did not participate because of continuing health issues.

The budgeting process used by West Vincent Township and virtually all other Pennsylvania municipalities starts in at least August. A draft budget was presented to the Board at its September meeting. Ms. Cozzone came in to make a presentation to the Board and ask for a contribution of \$107,000 for 2025 at the October 7th workshop meeting. Because of the illness of one Supervisor and the hospitalization of a second Supervisor, the budget and this request could not be considered at the regular October meeting or in November, when there was no quorum. Because of these circumstances, the only Supervisor who was not hospitalized felt that she was unable to move forward on the Ambulance Company's request. Because State law required the budget to be advertised and available for public inspection for 20 days in advance of adoption, and because major changes to the draft budget would require re-advertising and delay budget adoption until 2025, which the State does not allow, the budget had to be adopted as is in

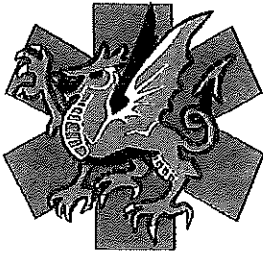
the December meeting with some minor changes, which included an increased contribution to Uwchlan Ambulance. It should be clear that requests for funding need to be presented to the Township as early as possible in the budgeting process. Late requests can be subject to the problems which were created in this case by the unusual and unexpected medical issues of Board members.

The Board is willing to work with the Board of the Ambulance Company to come up with a mechanism to provide additional funding to the ambulance company. As a show of good faith, the Township is enclosing with this letter its check in the amount of \$10,000. This is a one-time payment made out of ARPA funds, the balance of which has been exhausted by 12/31/2024.

In view of these actions and the information contained in this letter, the Board of Supervisors of West Vincent Township request that Uwchlan Ambulance Corp. rescind Ms. Cozzone's letter and work with the Board of Supervisor to come up with an equitable level of funding for the ambulance company. We hope that this will lead to a relationship of cooperation between us.

Very truly yours,

The Board of Supervisors
Of West Vincent Township
Dana Alan, Chair
Bernie Couris, Vice Chair
Charlene Briggs, Member



UWCHLAN AMBULANCE CORPS

Proudly Serving Uwchlan, West Whiteland, Upper Uwchlan, Wallace, West Vincent, West Pikeland, Charlestown & East Nantmeal

70 West Welsh Pool Road Exton, Pennsylvania 19341-1222
Phone 610-363-1067 • www.station87.com

Station 87

December 16, 2024

Board of Directors

Leslie Rylke
President

Sharon Sharpe
Vice President

Bruce Vessey
Secretary

John Applegate
Henry Baxter
Jeanne Fitzpatrick
Damon Ireland
Steve Nash
Clifford Schoner
Todd Sepella

Kathi Cozzone
Executive Director

Jason Brooks
EMS Chief of Operations

Tammy Whiteman
Director of MIH

William Wells
Education Director

Dr. Bert Schiffer
Medical Director

West Vincent Township Board of Supervisors
729 St. Matthews Road
Chester Springs, PA 19425

Dear Board of Supervisors:

On October 7, 2024, EMS Chief Jason Brooks and I attended your public Board of Supervisors meeting to deliver a report on Uwchlan Ambulance Corps. (UAC) and formally request funding for 2024 and 2025.

During our presentation, we addressed several critical points:

- UAC is not insulated from the ongoing EMS crisis affecting the United States: stagnant revenue, escalating operating costs, limited personnel availability, increasing call volumes.
- UAC has encountered an annual deficit for the last seven years, a situation exacerbated by the EMS crisis.
- It is important to note that West Vincent township comprises 9% of the population served by UAC, yet accounts for 5% of the call volume.
- We provided data illustrating that West Vincent's financial contributions have not kept pace with the increase in call volume within the township.
- We identified \$6 million in necessary capital investments over the next five years.
- We respectfully requested an additional 2024 contribution of \$5,000 to mitigate the debt incurred from acquiring a new ambulance.
- For 2025, we requested operational funding amounting to \$68,000 and \$39,000 dedicated to capital needs.
- Furthermore, we reiterated that an annual request for funding is conveyed to West Vincent Township.

The call volume in West Vincent has increased from 150 in 2017 to 267 in 2023, marking a substantial rise of 78%. During this period, the total funding provided by the township has amounted to \$13,000, with a \$5,000 contribution in 2019 and an \$8,000 contribution in 2022.

On December 2, I examined the proposed township budget and was surprised to find that the allocation for EMS was \$0. I wrote to Township M Mr. Wendelgass for clarification but did not receive a response. Subsequently, I called the township and learned that the proposed budget had been revised to include a \$5,000 contribution to UAC.

In light of the information presented at the public meeting, we anticipated that West Vincent township would acknowledge the essential services provided by UAC and allocate funding that reflects the need for stable EMS provision, in particular UAC which provides excellent care to over 75,000 residents of Chester County.

It is with regret that I convey our disappointment regarding the lack of meaningful funding from the West Vincent Township Board of Supervisors. Consequently, Uwchlan Ambulance Corps is hereby providing the requisite 90-day notice to terminate our status as a designated Emergency Medical Services provider for West Vincent Township.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kathi Cozzone
Executive Director

WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP

ARPA FUND
729 SAINT MATTHEWS ROAD
CHESTER SPRINGS, PA 19425

VICTORY BANK
LIMERICK, PA 19468
60-1912/319

12/31/2024

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Uwchlan Ambulance Corp.

\$ **10,000.00

Ten Thousand and 00/100***** DOLLARS

Uwchlan Ambulance Corp.
70 West Welsh Pool Road
Exton, PA 19341



[Signature]
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

MEMO
2024 Contribution

⑈001017⑈ ⑆031919128⑆ 200971921⑈

WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP

Uwchlan Ambulance Corp.

12/31/2024

2024 Contribution

10,000.00

Victory Bank - ARPA 2024 Contribution

10,000.00

WEST VINCENT TOWNSHIP

Uwchlan Ambulance Corp.

12/31/2024

2024 Contribution

10,000.00

Victory Bank - ARPA 2024 Contribution

10,000.00