

lehighvalleylive.com

The Express-Times

Forks Township returns to drawing board to untangle residents' payments to Forks EMS

Friday, November 21, 2008

By **TONY NAUROTH**

The Express-Times

FORKS TWP. | Supervisors faced yet another decision Thursday night in their effort to tidy up the financial mess left behind by Forks EMS as it continues to close its books and its doors.

Supervisor Erik Chuss, chairman of the supervisors' safety committee, introduced a resolution that would have rescinded a previous decision for the township to pay residents' emergency service subscriptions if Forks EMS fails to reimburse them.

Under the arrangement approved by the supervisors two weeks ago, township residents who have already paid Forks EMS subscriptions can get Suburban EMS coverage if they provide proof they paid Forks.

Forks EMS officials have said that when supervisors named Suburban the sole township emergency service earlier this year, it rang the death knell for the former ambulance company.

Those officials promised that payments would be returned, prompting Chuss to make Thursday's resolution.

Instead, supervisors left the original resolution in place, allowing residents to claim Suburban protection as long as they provide documentation of payment to Forks EMS.

The issue will be revisited during a 5 p.m., Dec. 2 safety committee meeting when "a more comprehensive arrangement" will be discussed, Supervisors Chairman David Howell said.

The vote to rescind the resolution to provide township-backed Suburban subscriptions was 3-1 with supervisors Donald Miller, Bonnie Nicholas and Howell voting no. Chuss voted yes. Supervisor Robert Egolf was absent.

Staff writer Tony Nauroth can be reached at 610-258-7171 or at tnauroth@express-times.com.

©2008 The Express-Times

© 2008 lehighvalleylive.com All Rights Reserved.