

Council Finance & Appropriations Committee  
Oversight Hearing  
Upper Darby Township  
100 Garrett Road  
Upper Darby, PA 19082  
March 9, 2026 7:00 pm

**\*\*The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on [youtube.com/upperdarby.org](https://youtube.com/upperdarby.org)\*\***

Vice-President of Council and Chair of the Finance & Appropriations Committee, Noah Fields, called the meeting to order.

Present: Noah Fields (NF), Michelle Billups (MB), Myron McNeely (Mmcneely), Melissa DiNofia-Bozzone (MDB), Marion Minick (MM), The Honorable Mayor Ed Brown, Chief Administrative Officer Crandall O. Jones, Solicitor Gallagher, and Chief Municipal Clerk Kate Doggett.

**Opening Remarks**

**Noah Fields, Vice-President and Chair of the Finance & Appropriations Committee** – NF gave opening remarks and stated that the purpose of the hearing was to ensure that taxpayer funds that support public safety are subject to appropriate oversight.

**Ed Brown, Mayor** - Mayor Ed Brown gave opening remarks, stating that the review is necessary and appropriate.

**Administration Statement**

**Crandall Jones, Chief Administrative Officer**- CAO Jones provided information on the current funding structure for volunteer fire companies and the operational relationship between the township and the fire stations.

**Nicholas Martin, Upper Darby Township Fire Chief** – Chief Martin gave opening remarks.

**Committee Questions for Administration**

MDB posed a question to CAO Jones.

**Solicitor Statement**

**Lauren Gallagher, Township Solicitor** – Solicitor Gallagher provided a legal perspective on the funding structure for the volunteer fire companies.

**Committee Questions for Solicitor**

MB posed a question to Solicitor Gallagher  
MDB posed a question to Solicitor Gallagher  
MM posed a question to Solicitor Gallagher  
NF posed a question to Solicitor Gallagher

**IAFF Representative Statement**

**Tommy Thornton, President of Upper Darby Professional Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 2493** – Tommy Thornton gave a statement to Council.

**Committee Questions for IAFF Representative**

Mmcneely posed two questions to Tommy Thornton.

**Committee Questions for Volunteer Fire Company Representative (if present)**

**Timothy Powers, Cardington Stonehurst Fire Company District Chief and Co-Chair of the Board** - Timothy Powers provided information regarding the fire company and stated that the treasurer submits financial documentation to Fire Headquarters. He also noted that all administrations had been invited to the firehouse and extended an invitation again. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM.

Mmcneely posed a question to Timothy Powers.

MDB posed a question to Timothy Powers.

MM posed a question to Timothy Powers.

**Adam Drabinski, Garrettford-Drexel Hill Fire Company Vice-President and Chairman of the Board** – Adam Drabinski provided information regarding the fire company. He stated that the treasurer submits a comprehensive monthly report to the fire headquarters and that a third-party accounting firm conducts an annual audit. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM.

NF posed a question to Adam Drabinski.

MDB posed a question to Adam Drabinski.

**Thomas Micozzi, Primos-Secane-Westbrook Park Fire Company, Chairman of the Board** – Thomas Micozzi provided information regarding the fire company, including the history and structure of all the township’s fire companies. He addressed statements made previously during this meeting. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM.

MB thanked everyone who participated in the hearing.

NF noted that public committee oversight hearings had not been held before and explained the purpose.

**Highland Park Fire Company** - No representative present.

**Jim McFarlane, Upper Darby Fire Company and Board member** – Jim McFarlane provided information regarding the fire company and stated that they submit financial documentation to Fire Headquarters monthly. Meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 PM.

MM posed a question to Jim McFarlane.

Mayor Brown posed a question to Jim McFarlane.

NF posed a question to Jim McFarlane.

**Public Comment**

Chief Martin discussed the matter of non-certified members being permitted to ride on fire trucks. Chief Powers inquired whether a standardized report document is available for use by the fire companies.

Tim Sudall, a member of the Cardington Stonehurst Fire Company and of the Board, emphasized the importance of working collaboratively to support the fire companies and the community they serve.

Lee Jordan thanked the five fire companies and stated that the hearing was informative. She requested clarification on the issues and encouraged establishing agreements with neighboring municipalities.

Thomas Micozzi provided information regarding potential issues related to mutual aid agreements and workers' compensation insurance.

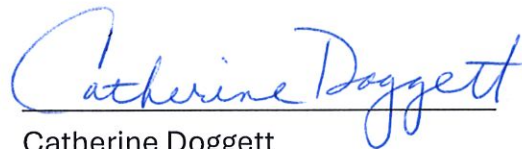
**Closing Remarks**

Chair Noah Fields thanked everyone who participated in the hearing and said the meeting helped the committee understand how funding has historically been distributed and how the facilities are supported. This information will guide the committee as they work with the Mayor, Township Administration, the Fire Chief, and the volunteer companies to support both the firefighters and the residents they serve.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Doggett  
Chief Municipal Clerk