

**Upper Pottsgrove Township
Fire Committee Meeting
May 17, 2007**

Members in attendance were Chairman Russell Noll, Vice Chairman Robert Sloss, Renee Spaide, Fire Marshal/President Stanley Hildenbrand and Fire Chief Tom Mattingly. Kenneth Iatesta was absent. Also in attendance were Scott Wagner, Henry Bealer, John Fasnaugh and Jack Layne, Township Manager.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Noll called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

II. Approval of Minutes

Vice Chairman Sloss moved that the April 19, 2007 Fire Committee meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Marshal Hildenbrand seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

III. Reports

A. Operational Report

Chief Mattingly provided the activity report for April 2007 for Fire Company Number 1. Highlights of his report included the following:

- There were 13 calls for the month
- There were 3 structure fires
- There were 2 accidents
- There was 1 automatic fire alarm
- There were no investigations
- There was 1 vehicle fire
- There was 1 helicopter landing
- There were 5 Fire Police only calls
- Mutual aid was given 4 times
- Mutual aid was received 4 times
- Four municipalities were served
- Time in service totaled 8 hours and 3 minutes
- Total man hours were 66.76
- Monthly training consisted of CPR/AED training
- The training schedule consisted of Radiological, Tanker Taskforce and Helicopter Landing training

Vice Chairman Sloss questioned why the fire hydrant was not utilized for the fire that occurred last week on Farmington Avenue. Marshal Hildenbrand stated that there was concern with the capacity of the fire hydrant, which is why a tanker was utilized.

He also asked about the filling of the air tanks by the North End Fire Company as opposed to Sassmanville. Marshal Hildenbrand responded that Sassmanville has been very responsive and has provided quality service.

B. Membership Report

Marshal Hildenbrand stated that two new members had been accepted, had passed their background checks and had been voted in. He added that there were no additional applications.

C. Treasurer's Report

Marshal Hildenbrand reported that for the month of April 2007 that there were no transactions and the starting balance was \$5,621.03 and the ending balance was \$5,623.02.

D. Fire Fund Budget Update

Mr. Layne provided an April 30, 2007 Balance Sheet, revenues with comparison to Budget for the four months ending April 30, 2007, expenditures with comparison to Budget for the four months ending April 30, 2007 and May 4, 2007 listing of bills paid for the review by the Committee. He pointed out that \$77,053.82 had been received in tax revenue and there had been \$17,811.04 in expenditures leaving a balance of \$60,015.36.

E. Fire Relief

Mr. Wagner provided the Fire Relief Financial Statement for the month of April and March 2007. He stated that the April 30th Checking Account balance was \$25,639.24, Money Market Account was \$37,412.10 and the total for the CD investments was \$104,224.67. He further stated that for the month of March the March 31st Checking Account balance was \$25,973.53, the Money Market Account was \$37,343.65 and the total for the CD investments was \$103,868.66.

IV. Old Business

A. Fire Hydrant Water Pressure Issue involving Superior

Mr. Layne reported that he had contacted Superior to obtain updated information on their proposed fire hydrant flushing and water pressure testing efforts. He stated that he had not received an update from them but that he would pursue this matter and obtain this information for the Committee. He was also requested to obtain the Pottstown fire hydrant flushing information as well. Chairman Noll requested that Mr. Layne contact Superior regarding why the fire hydrant that was recently installed in his area was not facing the street. Marshal Hildenbrand questioned the location of Burgundy Circle where a \$318,000 home was located.

B. 2007 Priorities-Update and Review

Marshal Hildenbrand stated that priorities included the hoses that we will be obtaining as a result of the awarding of the \$20,000 grant, the Pumper that was recently requested in the \$450,000 Homeland Security application and a Brush Truck. He added that much of the Township was wooded and that a Brush Truck was needed.

C. Master Plan

Marshal Hildenbrand stated that he was still working on the Master Plan. There was a general consensus that the Master Plan that was presented

was a good Plan. Mr. Wagner suggested that we plan for future needs, i.e., new trucks, etc. Chairman Noll stated that we will be able to project out for the future by developing the Business Plan.

D. Proposed Automatic Fire Alarm Ordinance

Chairman Noll stated that the Board of Commissioners had reviewed the proposed Automatic Fire Alarm Ordinance. There was a consensus that the proposed Ordinance should be amended to reflect that the funds received should be applied to the Fire Fund. Marshal Hildenbrand stated that copies of the Fire Alarm Ordinance, after it has been approved, would be provided to those who had submitted false fire alarms.

E. Homeland Security Grant Application

There was general agreement that this matter had been previously discussed under **B. 2007 Priorities – Update and Review.**

F. Tax Exempt status

Marshal Hildenbrand stated that he had recently met with Commissioner Pete Dolan and had requested that he assist the Fire Company to obtain its 501 © (3) tax exempt status. He stated that Mr. Dolan would do so.

V. New Business

There was no New Business.

VI. Public Comment

- Mr. Wagner thanked everyone for the services provided by the Fire Company.
- Mr. Bealer suggested that Mr. Dolan provide monetary support towards the cost for the Fire Company's efforts to obtain tax exempt status.

VI. Adjournment

Marshal Hildenbrand moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:37 P.M. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Submitted by Jack Layne, Township Manager

**The next Fire Committee meeting is scheduled for 7:00 P.M. Thursday,
June 21, 2007**