

**Upper Pottsgrove Township  
Fire Committee Meeting  
June 18, 2009**

Members in attendance were Chairman Russell Noll, Vice Chairman Robert Sloss, Renee Spaide, Marshal/President Stanley Hildenbrand and Fire Chief Tom Mattingly. Gilbert Duncan was absent. Also in attendance were Scott Wagner with Fireman's Relief, Robert Lightcap and Jack Layne, Township Manager.

**I. Call to Order**

Due to the later arrival of Chairman Noll, Vice Chairman Sloss called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

Marshal Hildenbrand moved that the May 21, 2009 Fire Committee meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Vice Chairman Sloss seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**III. Reports**

**A. Operational Report**

Chief Mattingly provided the Operational Report for the month of May 2009. Highlights of this Report included the following:

- There were 12 calls and 53 year to date
- There were 0 structure fires
- There 2 accidents with injuries
- There was 1 trash fire
- There were 5 automatic fire alarms
- There was 1 Fire Police only call
- There were 0 vehicle fires
- Mutual aid was given 1 time
- Mutual aid was received 1 time
- There were 0 scratched calls
- Two municipalities were served
- Time in service was 9 hours and 56 minutes and man hours totaled 75
- Individual Fire Academy Courses and Driver and Pump training were provided

Vice Chairman Sloss asked if the 5 automatic fire alarms were false alarms. Marshal Hildenbrand stated that not all these were false alarms and that some of them were for people burning food.

**B. Membership Report**

Marshal Hildenbrand reported that in May 2009 there were 34 Active Members, 21 Non Firefighters and 15 Inactive Members. He stated that there were 0 new applications, 0 being investigated and 2 memberships had been approved.

**C. Treasurer's Report**

Marshal Hildenbrand distributed the May 2009 Treasurer's Report. The Savings Account had a beginning balance of \$5,430.28 and an ending balance of \$5,431.43. There were no expenditures in the Savings Account in May. The beginning Checking Account balance for May 2009 was \$16,817.91 and the ending balance was \$14,902.10. It was noted that the \$2,496.96 was for Tanker repairs. The beginning balance for the Truck Fund was \$9,905.88 and the ending balance was \$11,634.97.

**D. Fire Fund Budget Update**

Mr. Layne provided the May 31, 2009 Township Balance Sheets and Fire Fund payment approvals by the Commission in June 2009 for the review of the Committee. Mr. Layne stated that there was an Unreserved Fund Balance of \$103,525.32 and that the unappropriated fund balance year to date was \$65,130.52. It was also noted that the Allegheny Valley Bank provided an update on the amount of interest earned to date on the first and second CDs provided to the Bank by the Township towards the purchase of the new fire truck. He added that expenditures were being closely monitored especially with respect to anticipated versus actual tax revenue. Mr. Layne further stated that actual expenditures were below or close to what was projected by the budgeted amount.

**E. Fire Relief Fund**

Mr. Wagner provided reports for May 2009. The month end Checking Account balance for May was \$45,539.08, the Money Market closing balance was \$27,776.19, Certificates of Deposits were \$55,743.58 and \$50,860.27 and the total for all accounts was \$179,919.12.

**IV. Old Business**

**A. Fire Hydrant Water Pressure Issue Involving Superior**

It was noted that the Township had not received fire hydrant pressure testing or flushing reports from neither Superior Water Company nor the Pottstown Borough Authority. Chief Mattingly stated that the coloring/marketing of the fire hydrants were determined by NFPA standards designating different colors for different water pressure levels. Following additional discussion on the fact that the Township had yet to receive requested fire hydrant water pressure test reports, Vice President Sloss moved that Upper Pottsgrove Township file a complaint to the Pennsylvania Utilities Commission (PUC) requesting that they investigate why the Superior Water Company had not provided the Township with requested fire hydrant pressure test report information and that a copy of this request to PUC by the Township be provided to Governor Rendell and the State Fire Commissioner. Marshal Hildenbrand seconded the motion. The motion was approved. There was also a recommendation that the Pottstown Borough Authority be contacted regarding the status of the Township's request for their fire hydrant test data.

**B. Information on leasing options for new fire truck**

Chief Mattingly stated that the radios had been ordered for the new truck and that the loose equipment that would be placed on the truck was part of the original price of the truck.

It was noted that the \$100,000 that the Township has forwarded to Allegheny Valley Bank would be applied towards the down payment on the fire truck.

**C. Miscellaneous Items**

- Chief Mattingly noted that shrubbery needed to be removed from a fire hydrant located on Gilbertsville Road. It was noted that Fire Company personnel would contact the homeowner located near the fire hydrant regarding this matter.
- Marshal Hildenbrand showed a new patch for Fire Company personnel uniforms.
- Marshal Hildenbrand stated that he had received a \$50 check. There was a consensus that this check should be considered as a donation to the Fire Company.
- Chairman Noll requested a copy of the letter denoting the 501© (3) non-profit status of the Fire Company that he would include with the letters he will distribute requesting corporate donations.

**V. New Business**

- Marshal Hildenbrand stated that weeds needed to be cut near the Farmington Avenue and State Route 100 exit ramp.
- Chief Mattingly noted that there was a problem with the signage at the State Route 100 and State Road intersection located near the Upland Square Shopping Center. He stated that the State Street sign should be pointed towards the Borough of Pottstown while the Upland Square sign should be pointed towards the Shopping Center.

**VI. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**VII. Adjournment**

Ms. Spaide moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:12 P.M. Chief Mattingly 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,  
July 16, 2009**