

**Upper Pottsgrove Township
Fire Committee Meeting
January 21, 2010**

Members in attendance were Chairman Russell Noll, Vice Chairman Robert Sloss, Renee Spaide, Gilbert Duncan and Fire Chief Tom Mattingly. Marshal/President Stanley Hildenbrand was absent. Also in attendance were Bob Lightcap, Keith Winnemore, Scott Wagner 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 7:19 P.M.

II. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Spaide moved that the October 15, 2009 Fire Committee meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Mr. Duncan seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

III. Reports

A. Operational Report

Chief Mattingly provided the Operational Report for the months of October, November and December 2009. Highlights of these Reports included the following:

- In October there were 7 calls, 13 calls in November and 13 calls in December and 135 for the year to date
- In October there was 1 structure fire, 1 in November and 0 in December
- In October there was 1 accident with injuries, 2 in November and 4 in December
- There were 0 trash fires in October, 2 in November and 1 in December
- There were 2 automatic fire alarms in October, 2 in November and 1 in December
- There were 3 Fire Police only calls in October, 3 in November and 5 in December
- There were 0 vehicle fires in October, 0 in November and 0 in December
- Mutual aid was given 3 times in October, 3 times in November and 5 times in December
- Mutual aid was received 3 times in October, 3 times in November and 3 times in December
- There were 0 scratched calls in October, 0 in November and 0 in December
- Two municipalities were served in October, 2 in November and 3 in December

- Time in service was 6 hours and 2 minutes and man hours totaled 39 in October, 12 hours and 13 minutes and 70 man hours in November and 20 hours and 45 minutes and 123 man hours in December
- In-House Training was provided in October, In-House and Individual Fire Academy Schools in November and In-House and Individual Fire Academy Schools in December

B. Membership Report

No Membership Report was provided.

C. Treasurer's Report

Chief Mattingly reported that the December 2009 month end balance for the Fire Company's Savings Account was \$2,505.29 and the Checking Account was \$876.27. Mr. Sloss noted that no update as to the amount of funding currently in the Fire Truck Fund was provided in this report.

D. Fire Fund Budget Update

Mr. Layne noted that the December 31, 2009 Fire Fund report stated that there was \$49,188.70 in net revenue over expenditures. Total Real Estate Taxes received as of December 31, 2009 were \$98,914.88 or 101.9% of the budgeted amount. He also noted that the initial loan payment on the Fire Truck was due in December 2009, when past reports had indicated that the first payment would not be due until December 2010. Chairman Noll requested that a payment summary be provided regarding this matter.

E. Fire Relief Fund

The Fire Relief reports for November 2009 were the following: the month end Checking Account balance for November 2009 was \$42,219.59, the Money Market closing balance was \$59,181.61, Certificates of Deposits were \$56,197.31 and \$51,749.96 and the total for all accounts was \$209,348.47. Reports for December 2009 were that the Checking Account balance was \$38,558.21, the Money Market closing balance was \$59,226.85, Certificates of Deposits were \$56,274.54 and \$51,896.49 and the total for all accounts was \$205,956.09.

IV. Old Business

A. Memorandum of Understanding

The Committee discussed the Memorandum of Understanding. Mr. Duncan stated that he felt that the Fire Committee should serve as the go-between the Fire Company and the Board of Commissioners. Chairman Noll stated that he felt that the Fire Committee was needed but that it should act as a board of directors. Chief Mattingly stated that the Fire Company wanted control of the Fire Company. Mr. Duncan stated that he was not aware of any other fire company that had to report to their respective board of commissioners/supervisors, etc. He added that he felt that the Fire Company had the right to govern themselves. Chairman Noll stated that in the past there was no Fire Committee in place and now the Fire Company want their own board of directors but still keep the Fire

Committee as their liaison between the Fire Company and the Township. Vice Chairman Sloss stated that he did not think that the Fire Company was in that position. Ms. Spaide stated that the Fire Committee was concerned with the Fire Company. It was noted that the past Treasurer had provided all of the items requested. It was requested that the proposed revised Fire Company By-Laws be emailed to the Fire Committee. Vice Chairman Sloss reiterated that he was concerned with the checks and balances regarding this matter.

V. New Business

A. Fire Hydrant Water Pressure Levels Provided by Superior

Mr. Duncan expressed his concerns that the Superior Water Company was not providing satisfactory water pressure levels through its fire hydrants in the Township. He emphasized, which was supported by Chairman Noll, that the water pressure was extremely low in the area where the fire hydrants were being utilized. Following additional discussion on this matter, there was a consensus that Superior should be requested to attend the next Fire Committee meeting to discuss this matter.

VI. Public Comment

- A.** Mr. Wagner stated that the regular monthly reports provided to Fire Committee should be submitted to the Fire Committee even if the representative providing the report is absent from the meeting that month. Mr. Duncan subsequently moved that all Fire Company reports are to be provided by the third Thursday of each month regardless as to whether the person who provides the report is in attendance at the monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Chairman Noll. The motion was approved.
- B.** Mr. Wagner stated that he thought that the Fire Committee was still needed.
- C.** Mr. Wagner stated that the ball had been dropped with Superior a long time ago. He stated that when developments were provided in the Township and there were code enforcement inspections of these developments that were approved, the issue of the adequate water pressure levels being in place should have been more strictly implemented and enforced at that time.

VII. Adjournment

Ms. Spaide moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 P.M. Mr. Duncan 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,
February 18, 2010**