

**Upper Pottsgrove Township
Fire Committee Meeting
April 15, 2010**

Members in attendance were Chairman Russell Noll, Vice Chairman Robert Sloss, Renee Spaide, Gilbert Duncan, Marshal/President Stanley Hildenbrand and Fire Chief Tom Mattingly. Also in attendance were Erin Flanagan, Scott Wagner and Jack Layne, Township Manager.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Noll called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

II. Approval of Minutes

Marshal Hildenbrand moved that the March 18, 2010 Fire Committee meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

III. Reports

A. Operational Report

Chief Mattingly provided the Operational Report for the month of March 2010. Highlights of this Report included the following:

- There were 21 calls and 47 calls for the year to date
- There was 1 structure fire
- There were 3 accidents with injuries
- There was 1 trash fire
- There was 1 automatic fire alarm
- There were 3 Fire Police only calls
- There was 1 vehicle fire
- Mutual aid was given 2 times
- Mutual aid was received 5 times
- There were 0 scratched calls
- Three municipalities were served
- Time in service was 22 hours and 55 minutes and man hours totaled 230.1 hours
- In-House Training and Fire Academy Training were provided

Chief Mattingly stated that the storm that occurred that caused the downing of the electrical wires was noted on the Report. He added that the Haz Mat Incident was the 75 gallons of diesel fuel that was spilled near the State Route 100 and State Road intersection. Mr. Duncan recommended that one or more firefighters should receive Haz Mat training due to the time lost when a Haz Mat firm is contacted and arrives versus when the incident actually occurs. Marshal Hildenbrand responded that the Pottstown Borough and Lewis Environmental were contacted when this incident occurred and they responded in timely fashion. Vice

Chairman Sloss noted that 3-4 years ago an incident occurred at a home on Moyer Road where there was a significant oil leakage.

B. Membership Report

In March 2010, there was one new applicant, one investigation and no memberships were approved. There were 34 active members, seven non-Fire Fighters and 22 inactive members.

C. Treasurer's Report

Marshal Hildenbrand reported that the month end balance for March 2010 for the Fire Company's Savings Account was \$2,506.83 and the Checking Account was \$2,623.59. The amount of funding currently in the Fire Truck Fund was \$14,954.09. Vice Chairman Sloss emphasized that 50% of contributions and donations received by the Fire Company were to be earmarked for the Truck Fund. Marshal Hildenbrand stated that funds had not been taken from the checking account and placed into the Truck Fund this past month due to the fact that the checking account would have been less than \$2,000 if this had occurred. He noted that the checking account had to maintain a minimum balance of \$2,000.

There was a brief discussion on the Auxiliary Financial Report. Vice Chairman Sloss suggested that 50% of the funding they receive should go to the Truck Fund. Marshal Hildenbrand emphasized that the Auxiliary was a self-supporting organization. Chairman Noll suggested that the Fire Company monitor the Auxiliary Financial Reports and that their report be placed in the upcoming Treasurer Reports.

D. Fire Fund Budget Update

Mr. Layne distributed the February 28, 2010 Fire Fund report. He noted that the March 31, 2010 Fire Fund report would not be available until the next meeting. The Committee discussed the need to have the Fire Company floor professionally repaired and water sealed in order to prevent future water leakage through the floor area.

E. Fire Relief Fund

The Fire Relief report for March 2010 was the following: the month end Checking Account balance was \$9,786.77 and there was \$3,275 in disbursements, the Money Market closing balance was \$59,358.38, Certificates of Deposits were \$56,499.34 and \$52,338.57 and the total for all accounts was \$177,983.06. Mr. Wagner noted that funds from the Fire Relief Fund could not be utilized to pay for operational maintenance costs if they do not own the vehicle/equipment that is repaired. Vice Chairman Sloss noted that the Fire Relief Association had been cited by the State for doing an outstanding job and being in full compliance with State policies. Vice Chairman Sloss expressed his concern that the State could request the funds from the Fire Relief Association due to the amount of funds that they have and the current status of the State Budget.

IV. Old Business

A. Memorandum of Understanding/Proposed Revised By-Laws

It was noted that action on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the proposed revised By-Laws would occur only after the Fire Company had completed their review and actions.

B. Corporate Fund Drive

Chairman Noll stated that the student working on the Corporate Fund Drive had not received any favorable responses from corporations as of yet. It was suggested that Diamond Real Estate be contacted regarding this matter. Chairman Noll emphasized that this endeavor would continue.

C. Township Barricades

There was discussion about the benefits of utilizing barricades versus cones for inhibiting traffic. Mr. Duncan stated that barricades are much better at impeding traffic than cones. Ms. Spaide stated that she would discuss the Township providing the Fire Company with 4 to 8 barricades with the Public Works Department.

V. New Business

A. Water Softener

Marshal Hildenbrand obtained cost information for the purchase of a water softener that would be utilized by the Fire Company and the Administrative Office. There was a consensus that the Township should pay for 75% of the cost of this item and the Fire Company 25%.

B. Painting of the Fire Hydrants.

It was noted that some of the Superior Fire Hydrants had been painted. Vice Chairman Sloss stated that if the fire hydrants were owned by Superior and the Borough of Pottstown then they should be responsible for maintaining them, which would include cleaning debris from around the fire hydrants.

It was noted that the Superior fire hydrants have the Stouffer Connections but the Pottstown fire hydrants did not.

VI. Public Comment

- Ms. Flanagan provided a letter to the Fire Committee for their review.

VII. Executive Session

The Committee moved into Executive Session to discuss personnel items.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Spaide moved that the meeting be adjourned at 9:35 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,
May 20, 2010**