

**Upper Pottsgrove Township
Fire Committee Meeting
August 16, 2012**

Members in attendance were Chairman Pete Dolan, Renee Spaide, Keith Kachel, Stanley Hildenbrand, Fire Chief and President Bill Marsden. Vice Chairman Robert Sloss was absent. Also in attendance was Matthew Galamba, Erin Flanagan and Jack Layne, Township Manager.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Dolan called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

II. Approval of Minutes

Chief Hildenbrand noted that the minutes needed to reflect that 19 calls were made in June and not in May, 2012 in the Operations Report. Subsequently, there was a motion by Ms. Spaide, which was seconded by Chief Hildenbrand, that the July 19, 2012 meeting minutes be approved as amended. The motion was approved with President Marsden not voting due to his absence at the last meeting.

III. Report

A. Operational Report

Chief Hildenbrand provided the July 2012 Operational Report.

Highlights of this Report included the following:

- There were 8 calls in July and 92 calls for the year to date
- There were 2 structure fires
- There were 0 accidents with injuries
- There were 0 trash fires
- There were 0 automatic fire alarms
- There were 3 Fire Police only calls
- There were 0 vehicle fires
- Mutual aid was given 5 times
- Mutual aid was received 2 times
- There were 0 scratched calls

Four municipalities were serviced. Time in service was 6 hours 47 minutes and the total man hours were 48.5 hours. Monthly training included Continued Driver/Pump Training, In House training, driver/pumper/tanker training and Individual Fire Academy Courses were also provided.

B. Membership Report

There was no Membership Report provided for July.

C. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report noted that the month end balance for July 31, 2012 for the Fire Company's Savings Account was \$2,550.56, the Checking Account was \$10,971.48, the Truck Fund was \$33,806.40 and the Property Fund was \$10,022.47. The Auxiliary Savings Account month end balance was \$333.89 and the Auxiliary Checking Account month end

balance was \$868.19. Chairman Dolan asked what was the basis for the donation to the North Penn Canteen. Chief Hildenbrand stated that the North Penn Canteen provides food for the firefighters. Chairman Dolan then inquired as to what was the basis for the donation to the Montgomery County SPCA. Chief Hildenbrand responded that there was a connection to the Fire Company in that animal respiratory service and other measures for attempting to save and rescue animals are provided by the Fire Company.

D. Fire Fund Budget Update

Mr. Layne noted that he had distributed copies of the June 30, 2012 Fire Fund Report that had also been provided at the July meeting. He reiterated that the Operating Expenses line items still appeared to be sound.

E. Fire Relief Fund

There was no Fire Relief Report provided for July 2012.

IV. Old Business

A. By-Laws Amendments

There was a discussion regarding proposed amendments to the Fire Company By-Laws. The amendments were proposed for Article V, Section 1, Number 4; Article IV, Section 3; Article IV, Section 2; Article V, Section 4 and Article IV, Section 1. Following discussion on this matter, Chief Hildenbrand made a motion that the proposed amendments that were presented at the last meeting be accepted. Ms. Spaide seconded the motion. The motion was approved. There was also discussion on the proposed revisions to Article XX, Section 2; Article III, Section 5; Article XI, Section 8; Article XI, Section 7; Article XV, Section 3 and 4 (adding); Article XVIII, Section 3; Article XIX, Section 2, Letter F and Article XXII, Section 1. There was a consensus that the Committee did not need to read these proposed Amendments out loud since each Committee member had a copy of these proposed Amendments to review.

B. Discussion on Physical Exam specifications

Mr. Kachel requested that the Township confirm whether physicals for firefighters were still needed since the Workers' Compensation coverage provider would be changing next year as a result of the cancer legislation.

C. Training area

It was noted that a new training area had not been specified as of yet although new open space land has been and is proposed to be acquired.

V. New Business

- There was no new business.

VI. Public Comment

- Chief Hildenbrand stated that approximately 10 Township Firefighters attended a program honoring first responders that was provided by Hopewell Community Church. He stated that one Township Police Officer was in attendance.

- President Marsden noted that the \$5,000 that was allotted in the 2012 Budget for the Pumper is not needed since the Pumper has been paid off and that these funds could possibly be utilized for purchasing needed furniture in the Fire Company facility. There was discussion on whether funding should be utilized from the Fire Fund for the purchase of furniture for the Fire Company. Chairman Dolan suggested that the funding for the purchase of furniture could be taken out of the Fire Company's budget and reimbursed to the Fire Company if funding was needed by the Fire Company for other essential items or purposes.

VII. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Spaide moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:38 P.M. Chief Hildenbrand 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,
September 20, 2012**