

**Upper Pottsgrove Township  
Fire Committee Meeting  
July 1, 2014**

Members in attendance were Chairman Martin Schreiber, Vice Chairman William Marsden, Thomas Wojton, Vice President, Jeff Levengood, Fire Chief, Commissioner Renee Spaide, Keith Kachel, Township Manager Carol Lewis and Planning & Zoning Administrator Michelle Reddick. Jeremy Wozniak was present in the audience.

**Call to Order** - Chairman Schreiber called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – The members pledged allegiance to the flag.

**Approval of Minutes** – A motion by Levengood, seconded by Marsden, to approve the June 3, 2014 minutes, as written. Aye votes: Levengood, Marsden, Wojton and Schreiber. Abstain: Kachel. Motion carries.

**Reports**

- A. **Operational Report** – Chief Levengood provided 83 YTD. He also advised that Johnny Wood, IV was sworn in as Fire Police, and Edward Collar IV completed 166 hours of training and is now a certified firefighter. In addition, Edward has completed the basic fire police course.
- B. **Membership Report** – There are no new members.
- C. **Treasurer's Report** – The Treasurer's report was not available.
- D. **Fire Fund Budget Update** – A copy of the May 31, 2014 financial report for the Township's Fire Fund was provided for review. Keith Kachel expressed concern that there isn't any line item for radios in the budget, and noted that we will need to budget for radios in the future. Chairman Schreiber noted that we are still at 87 percent of budget for maintenance and questioned whether there was any maintenance coming due in the near future. Mr. Marsden advised that there was a recent truck repair, but it was taken out of the relief association.
- E. **Fire Relief Fund** – A copy of the report was not available.

**Old Business**

- A. **Fire Hydrants** – Chairman Schreiber advised that Superior Water is in the process of painting all the fire hydrants, and this project should be completed by the end of summer. However, they still have not repaired the fire hydrant in Cherrytree Farms which has been out of service for over a month. Carol agreed to contact Dave at Superior Water to discuss this matter.
- B. **Relief Property** – No update.
- C. **Trail Vehicle** – Chairman Schreiber reported that Greg Churach, Chairman of the Open Space and Recreation Board will discuss this matter at their next meeting. He suggested that members of the Fire Committee plan to attend that meeting and make a presentation on the purchase of the trail vehicle. The meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 7:00 pm.
- D. **By-Law Changes** - Chairman Schreiber advised that the Board of Commissioners passed three (3) out of the four (4) by-law changes. He noted that this matter can be discussed further if members feel it is necessary.

- E. Officer Updates-** Chairman Schreiber agreed to hold off discussion on this matter as it will not be in effect until the next Fire Company meeting.
- F. Worker’s Compensation Reporting –** Manager Carol Lewis questioned how these matters were handled in the past and how they should be handled going forward. Jeremy Wozniak agreed to meet with Carol and go over the process.

### **New Business**

- A. Radios-** Jeff Levengood advised that there is zero percent financing available through the County to purchase new radios. However, the Township would have to purchase them and then get reimbursed by the Fire Company. Chairman Schreiber noted that the current radios are guaranteed through Motorola until 2019. Keith Kachel reiterated that Motorola will still service all existing radios until 2019 at a minimum. In response to questions from Commissioner Spaide, Mr. Kachel advised that the Fire Company has 21 radios, and the approximate replacement cost would be \$8,000.00 each. In response to a question from Manager Carol Lewis, Mr. Levengood advised he is not sure how many years the financing is through the County. Keith Kachel suggested Carol contact Lou Chiccarine at the County for further information on the financing.

**Public Comment –** Former President Jeremy Wozniak provided an explanation as to why he resigned as President of the Fire Company. He explained that he was doing all the administrative work of the Fire Company for the last three (3) years and could not get cooperation from others and that there is no accountability or professionalism within the Fire Company. He noted, however, that he will be staying on in a limited capacity. In response to a question from Commissioner Spaide, Mr. Levengood advised that there were a few people who did step up to help but it was not done to Jeremy’s satisfaction. Mr. Wozniak explained that he wanted members to do the jobs right, and no one wanted to work hard enough to make that happen. Thomas Wojton noted that there are only about 4-5 people who actually want to work to get things done. In response to a question from Commissioner Spaide, Mr. Wozniak advised that there 12 active members, but only a few will step up to help. Chairman Schreiber noted that he had the same issues when he was president of the Fire Company. He suggested that this matter be discussed further at the next Fire Company meeting which is scheduled for Wednesday, July 9, 2014. In response to another problem pointed out by Chairman Schreiber, Manger Carol Lewis suggested that the Fire Company hold their meetings and/or training in the Township meeting room. In addition, Carol suggested that the Fire Company provide her with a list of priorities they need, and she can assist with looking and applying for grants.

**Adjournment –** A motion by Spaide, seconded by Levengood, to adjourn at 7:40 pm. All aye votes.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle L. Reddick  
Planning & Zoning Administrator

**The next Fire Committee meeting is scheduled for 7:00 pm on  
Tuesday, September 2, 2014.**