

The regular meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Fire Committee was held on Thursday, April 9, 2015. Members in attendance were Chairman Martin Schreiber, Vice Chairman William Marsden, Keith Kachel, Don Raudenbush, and Township Manager Carol R. Lewis.

Call to Order - Chairman Schreiber called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m. at which time members present pledged allegiance to the flag.

Approval of Minutes – A motion by K. Kachel, seconded by W. Marsden and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2015, meeting as presented.

Reports

- A. Operational Report** – The report was submitted by T. J. Wojton. The scratched call reflected on the report should not count since the call was for SR422 and a personally operated vehicle cannot be used on 422.
- B. Membership Report** – W. Marsden reported that they voted on three (3) members. There were four (4) but one of them did not have the background check complete. So only three (3) were approved.
- C. Treasurer’s Report** – D. Raudenbush presented the Treasurer’s Report and he advised the Board that he has reconciled all the accounts and they are up to date.
- D. Fire Fund Budget Update** – C. Lewis reported that they did receive the insurance refund for taking the vehicles off of the policy.
- E. Fire Relief** – A report was emailed for January. W. Marsden had the report for February. He reported that the bank does not give out statements for the CD’s. He called and ordered a screen shot for them. They are working on getting more of a grasp on the financials.

Old Business

- A. Fire Hydrants** - C. Lewis advised the Board that Aqua PA is buying Superior Water. K. Kachel reported that there was a brush fire on Moyer Road and when they were pulling water from the Gilbertsville hydrant Superior representatives harassed the driver and threatened to put a meter on. A complaint will be filed.
- B. Opticom** – The Board discussed the different options available for Opticom and decided that they would prefer the audible. C. Lewis will get more information for the next meeting.
- C. Maintenance** – M. Schreiber advised the Board that pump 3 is getting its pump rebuilt and will cost in the vicinity of \$3,000.

New Business

- A. Insurance Review** - C. Lewis advised the Board that the new policy will be coming in for the auto and she will send it out when it comes in. She asked that everyone review to make sure that the trucks and the limits are correct.
- B. Trail Signage** – C. Lewis reported that the Open Space and Recreation Board is looking into unified trail signage for the parks including mileage markers to identify where a person is. The Fire Committee suggested that they check into color coding to make it easier to identify where the person is. They also discussed the purchase of an ATV since there are a lot of areas in the open space that you cannot get to easily.

C. Clearances – M. Schreiber reported that there is a new law that was passed requiring background checks for all volunteers who have contact with minors. This must be done every 36 months. They discussed which were necessary and where to get them done. They also discussed who would pay for them. They also discussed some of the issues involved such as where to store them, how to scrutinize and what to do with the information once it is confirmed. The clearances must be done by July 1, 2015. The Board decided that they will develop a policy; George Harmansky will provide some samples. A motion by M. Schrieber, seconded by K. Kachel and unanimously carried to require active members to have their clearances done and turned into the Township Manager by June 15, 2015. M. Schreiber will draft a letter to be sent out to the members.

Board Comments – K. Kachel advised that a key fob system will be installed. M. Schreiber asked if the P Card that the township is going to could be used by the Fire Company as well. C. Lewis will look into this.

Executive Session – The Board went into Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. They reconvened at 8:43 p.m. A motion by D. Raudenbush, seconded by K. Kachel and unanimously carried to part ways with member B if his application was falsified.

D. Raudenbush asked about controlled burns. The Board agreed that the township ordinance needs to be clarified.

Adjournment – A motion by M. Schreiber seconded by K. Kachel and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carol R. Lewis, Township Manager