

The regular meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Fire Committee was held on Thursday, November 10, 2016. Members in attendance were Chairman Martin Schreiber, William Marsden, Don Raudenbush, France Krazalkovich, Keith Kachel, Tom Mattingly and Township Manager Carol R. Lewis.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by W. Marsden, seconded by Keith Kachel and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of October 20, 2016 as presented.

Reports

- A. Operational Report** – T. Mattingly presented the Operational Report. There were 59.6 man hours. Three (3) trucks handed out Halloween candy. There was a great response from the community.
- B. Membership Report** – W. Marsden reported there is one application in limbo. Another one was announced last night from Birdsboro.
- C. Treasurer's Report** – D. Raudenbush presented the Treasurer's Report. The Committee discussed CD's vs. Money Markets and interest rates.
- D. Fire Fund Budget Update** – The Committee discussed new financial software.
- E. Fire Relief Report** – The Volunteer Firemen's Relief received \$35,000 for their annual allotment.

Old Business

- A. SOP's**- A preliminary draft of the UTV SOP was reviewed.
- B. UTV** – Waiting for rest of equipment to be installed. Almost complete.
- C. Fundraising** – \$5,800 has been raised to date from the annual fund drive. \$4500 of the fund drive was used to purchase a trailer for the UTV. They discussed the upcoming Boot Drive which will be held on Black Friday.
- D. Radios** – Keith Kachel stated that he has been in communication with the County. The MDT service on Engine 2 is going away soon. There was discussion regarding tablets vs. computers. They are buying drive cameras for all five vehicles; thermal imaging cameras were also approved.

New Business

- A. 2017 Meeting Dates** - The Committee discussed meeting dates for 2017. It was agreed to keep the meeting dates the same. M. Schreiber discussed amending the meetings with the Board of Commissioners. No decisions were made.
- B. Elections** – C. Lewis requested that the Chief send her the list of new officers and other required information.
- C. Membership & Retention** – The Board feels that they are losing a lot of members and not getting quality replacements. They discussed incentives to join the Fire Company. F. Krazalkovich advised the Board that the Governor was sent Municipal Tax credits for volunteers for his signature.

Public Comment – There will be an Open House at the Pottstown Public Library on Saturday, December 3, 2016, from 10 – 2. Many emergency service personnel will be there. The Santa Run will be held on Saturday, December 17, 2016.

Executive Session – The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 7:36 pm to discuss personnel. They reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

Motion by M .Schreiber, seconded by D. Raudenbush and unanimously carried for member “C” to get a letter and if he does not show up his membership will be revoked.

USA Phones – They charge \$127 per line; it was decided to have them run the lines.

Adjournment – Motion by M. Schreiber, seconded by D. Raudenbush and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carol R. Lewis, Township Manager