

The regular meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Fire Committee was held on Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 7 p.m. Members in attendance were Chairman Martin Schreiber, William Marsden, Tom Mattingly, George Harmansky, Don Raudenbush and Carol R. Lewis. France Krazalkovich arrived at 7:38 p.m. The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Martin Schreiber.

Pledge of Allegiance – Those in attendance pledged allegiance to the flag.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by T. Mattingly second by D. Raudenbush and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of April 12, 2018 with one grammatical change.

Reports

- A. **Operational Report** – There were 16 calls for the month and 82 year to date. There were 45.5 training hours and 27 service hours. Staff hours equaled 154.
- B. **Membership** – One junior member became a probationary regular member.
- C. **Financial Report** - D. Raudenbush was advised that in order to show the memo he should run a Profit and Loss reports which can be customized by the desired dates.

Old Business

- A. **Grants** – The PEMA Grant came in and so they are ready to make the payment for the fire truck. D. Raudenbush and C. Lewis will coordinate.
- B. **Training** – the certificates came in for Hazmat operations. They are still waiting for the CPR cards.
- C. **Safety Committee** – C. Lewis advised that there are short safety videos on the VFRIS website that she encouraged the Fire Company to look through.
- D. **New Fire Truck** – The Board discussed the need for signers for the truck. It was suggested by G. Harmansky to have the documents signed by the President and the Treasurer. He advised that the Fire Company discussed at their meeting to support the suggestion of a fire study and if it was done in a timely manner they would hold off on the purchase of the new truck. Motion by G. Harmansky second by W. Marsden and unanimously carried to hold off on the purchase of the truck until after the study is done.

Public Comment

Renee Spaide, 1979 Yarnall Road asked what the purpose of the e-mail was that was sent to the Board of Commissioners. She felt that it was inappropriate. T. Slinkerd agreed and felt it was not his role to criticize a sitting Commissioner and it shows poor leadership. T. Mattingly felt the questions should be asked at the Fire Committee and not elsewhere in the County. G. Harmansky interjected that everyone needs to sit down and discuss any problems and how the company represents itself. The study is a good step in that direction. Fire Committee members and those Commissioners present discussed the study, the perceived lack of leadership in the company, the roles of each entity and the purpose of the study. They also discussed NFPA standards and adequate response times. They discussed how the fire tax is spent.

Dennis Elliot, 576 Evans Road expressed his gratitude for fire protection and the time the firefighters put in. He feels the fire study is a good idea for the company and the residents but does not like to see innuendos and insults.

George Harmansky, Fire Company President feels that everyone needs to work together to provide service for our community. There are weaknesses and strengths across the board. Need to get past the anger to work together for our community.

France Krazalkovich, Fire Committee Member and Commissioner clarified that everyone he talked to said you were all brothers and that he has a high respect for the job and what you do every day. He is not against fire fighters nor is this personal.

Martin Schreiber, Fire Committee President and Commissioner pointed out that there are many role within the Fire Company that do not include running into a burning house and all volunteers are appreciated.

Adjournment – Motion by C. Lewis second by D. Raudenbush and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol R. Lewis, Manager/ Treasurer