

The regular meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Fire Committee was held on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at 7 p.m. Members in attendance were Chairman Martin Schreiber, France Krazalkovich, William Marsden, Tom Mattingly, George Harmansky and Carol R. Lewis. Don Raudenbush arrived at 7:25 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 W. Marsden second by G. Harmansky and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of July 9, 2018 with changes.

### **Reports**

- A. **Operational Report** – There were 24 calls for the month and 146 year to date. There were 19 training hours. They did basic weekly training on air packs, had a funeral detail and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.
- B. **Financial Report** - D. Raudenbush presented the financial report.
- C. **Fire Fund Budget Update** – The Board discussed the repair line item. A bill will be coming for tires for one of the trucks.

### **Old Business**

- A. **Training** – G. Harmansky was advised that all personnel should receive yearly training on blood born pathogens. M. Schreiber can conduct this training. The Township will look into whether or not other personnel should receive this training as well.
- B. **Grants** – The SAFER Grant should be opening this fall. We will be applying for new air packs.
- C. **Fire Study** – C. Lewis sent Robert Hedden all of the documents he requested. M. Schreiber feels the Fire Company is being left out. C. Lewis explained that at this time R. Hedden is reviewing documents and will later come out to view the facility and interview all of the fire company members. It will be a yearlong process. F. Krazalkovich read a list of the documents sent. He advised that R. Hedden said the Fire Company would play an integral part in the study. The first thing the Township needed to do was take formal action on the Articles of Agreement between the Township and DCED which they did. The study is being undertaken at the behest of the Board of Commissioners with support from the Fire Company. R. Spaide confirmed that the conference call was only informational which it was.

### **New Business**

- A. **Maintenance** – There is a rain gutter down and the emergency lights are not working.
- B. **By-Law Changes** – D. Raudenbush is working on some by-law changes. M. Schreiber advised that they do not outline how to report an issue to the Board of Directors. They are also discussing expanding the Board to five (5) members to include two (2) non-fire members. Also, the definition of “active member” needs to be clarified.

**Public Comment**

**Keith Kachel** asked where fuel and insurance is being paid from and why fire company vehicles are being used as POVs? T. Mattingly advised the Board that he had taken the utility truck one day when he had no vehicle to make sure we had a driver to respond to calls since no one else was available and he did not want to scratch any calls. The decision was made by the officers of the Fire Company. In answer to a question from R. Spaide, W. Marsden advised that the SOGs clearly state it is the Chief's call on the vehicles and his word is final. He also advised that many companies provide a vehicle to the Chief to take home on a daily basis. This has never been asked for nor budgeted for. T. Mattingly will reimburse for the fuel used.

**Executive Session** – The Board adjourned into Executive Session at 7:32 p.m. for matters of personnel. They came back into session at 8:22 p.m.

**Adjournment** – Motion by C. Lewis second by F. Krazelkovich and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Carol R. Lewis, Manager/ Treasurer