

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Upper Macungie Township was held on May 22, 2014, in the Municipal Building, at 7:00 PM. Those present were Chairman James M. Brunell, Vice-Chairman Samir P. Ashmar, Secretary Kathy A. Rader, Fire Commissions Grant Grim, and Asst. Secretary Owen M. Bastian

Chairman James M. Brunell opened the meeting and asked all present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States.

Chairman Brunell reviewed that the purpose of the meeting is to improve relationships between the three fire companies and the Board of Supervisors.

Fire Company Fund Drive and Solicitation of Donations – The question is should each of the three fire companies have their own fund drive or a combined drive with the fund divided between the three companies. Jeff Grim from Fogelsville thought that it would be better for each company to have a separate fund drive. Arlan Wright brought up the possibility of using Pay Pal on the individual websites. The Fund Drive Committee will be meeting in the next two weeks to further explore these issues.

Supervisor Rader brought up that it could be perceived as a conflict of interest with any township representative soliciting donations from any of the companies located in the Township. This was verified through PSATS. However, on one from the fire companies is available to do it. Supervisor Ashmar asked for a show of hands for any volunteers who would be willing and available to solicit donations from companies within the township. No one raised their hand.

Fuel for Chief Vehicles – The Fire Chiefs have requested an allocation of fuel from the Township for the Chief's vehicles. Upon a motion by Secretary Rader, seconded by Vice-Chairman Ashmar and unanimously approved the chiefs will be allocated 50 gallons of fuel per month for the Fire Chief Vehicles.

Leasing of Trucks – Tabled until completion of Fire Study.

Leasing of Station 56 – Tabled until completion of Fire Study.

Standard Operating Guidelines ("SOG's") – Fire Commissioner Grim reported that the SOG's are in draft and that they are soon ready to be reviewed by Solicitor Schantz. After Schantz's review, they will go to the Fire Companies and Board of Supervisors for further review. After much discussion, William Gillespie and Keith Richard explained the differences between SOG's and by-laws. SOG's relate to fire department operations and by-laws relate to the business side of the Fire Company. Upon a motion by Secretary Rader, seconded by Vice-Chairman Ashmar and unanimous, Solicitor Andrew Schantz will be instructed to assist with the review of the Standard Operating Guidelines.

Fire Fighter Training – Chairman Brunell suggested that the Township assist members of each station to get additional training, especially for the Fire Fighter I Certification. In an effort to help accommodate the fire team members, Fire Commissioner Grant Grim will attempt to setup a Fire Fighter 1 course at the Fogelsville Fire Company. The Fire chief's will get a count of the individuals who are interested. Some members from Station 8 expressed concern that they did not have the time or feel that it is necessary to have Fire Fighter 1 since they have experience. William Gillespie suggested an abbreviated Fire Fighter 1 challenge course, which is only 32 hours be taken through Montgomery County Fire Academy. He referenced four prerequisites such as a current Hazardous Materials Operations card, a CPR card, a standard First Aid card and a Basic Fire Training Class or similar. It was discussed that the training should be held at Fogelsville Station to make it convenient for any UMT fire fighter.

Request for Proposal ("RFP") For the Fire Study – The draft of the RFP has been reviewed and is ready. VC Ashmar made a motion to advertise the RFP. The motion was amended that the Board of Supervisors control the date for completion and seconded by Chairman Brunell. The motion carried unanimously.

Status of Command Vehicle – A joint meeting is requested to meet with South Whitehall Township's Board of Commissioners to resolve issues with the mutual agreement. VC Ashmar stated that the Township has three possible options (1) Join with South Whitehall Township (2) Purchase our own vehicle for no more than the \$250,000.00, which we allocated as Upper Macungie's Township's share. Once Andrew and Grant meet and go over their concerns, the Board of Supervisors would subsequently meet with South Whitehall Township officials (3) Dismiss the project. Fire Commissioner Grim and Jeff Kelly from SWT will set a meeting.

Swearing-in of Fire Police – Chairman Brunell will swear in the Township Fire Police. The date to be determined by the Chiefs and given to Fire Commission Grim.

Regular Meetings With the Board of Supervisors – After some discussion, it was decided to hold these meetings quarterly. The next meeting will be Monday, September 8, 2014, at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Brian Kuhn's questioned locks on the fire hydrants. Fire commissioner Grim will check with LCA.

Paul McNemar – Hydrant on Chapman's Road, north of Russet Road, is out of service.

Brian Schultz – Thanked all of the volunteers for the apron work in front of Trexlertown Fire Company. It was requested to have "critique sessions" after severe fire calls, the next training night right after the incident.

Chuck Deprill – 2016 is the year for Fogelsville's 100th Anniversary.

Carl Schmoyer, III – Trexlertown also celebrating 100th Anniversary, with a banquet in April of 2016. A parade is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 16, 2016.

OTHER BUSINESS

Charles B. Friedlander - Upon a motion by Secretary Rader, seconded by VC Ashmar and unanimously approved, a letter is to be sent to James B. Allen, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS). This letter gives authorization from Upper Macungie Township for release of any requested information and records for the UMT Police Pension Plan to Charles B. Friedlander for the actuarial study.

Chairman Brunell thanked all present for attending and their input. Upon a motion by Chairman Brunell, seconded by Secretary Rader and unanimous, the meeting is adjourned at 9:12 PM.


Kathy A. Rader
Secretary