

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 10, 2003**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Fire District was held on Monday, February 10th, 2003 at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Raebel at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Bekken, Asbel, Kaye, Raebel

Absent: Edgcomb.

Chief Blok absent due to vacation.

MINUTES

Pertaining to the minutes of 1/13/03, under Chief's report- #4- second sentence- Kaye asked to reword to better reflect what is happening with the incentive program. **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to accept as amended.** Carried unanimously. Pertaining to the minutes of 1/27/03, under Chief's report- #7- first sentence- Raebel asked to change the word "ad". Board discussed options and decided on "advatorial". Kaye submitted a copy of the resolution authorizing him to enter into the loan agreement with Macatawa Bank, and requested the copy be attached to the minutes. **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to accept as amended.** Carried unanimously.

BILLS & FINANCIAL REVIEW

- A. Discussion and approval of bills. Asbel asked about the purchase of sweats and t-shirts, Wright stated they are for departmental members who wish to purchase them. Departmental member Joe Fucile was in the audience and verified it was necessary to purchase through the department initially, but members will be able to buy direct from the uniform company in the future. **Motion by Bekken/Asbel to accept the bills in the amount of \$22,743.38, payroll in the amount of \$26,484.88.** Carried unanimously.

Assistant Chief Scott Phelps arrived at 7:43 to fill in for Chief Blok.

- B. Financial Review. Asbel asked if year to date expenses were in order, Board discussion regarding the budget position took place.
- C. Budget Timeline. Wright presented board with preliminary dates for budget completion. Discussion took place and a timeline was set for budget presentation to each of the councils and board.

CORRESPONDENCE

Kaye reported Rick Zoulek desired to tender his resignation but after Kaye talked with him he will be submitted a letter to the Chief requesting a leave of absence. Board discussion ensued.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Raebel asked about the status of the new Coast Guard boat. Kaye reported some difficulties getting pertinent information, Phelps suggested some members of the department make a site visit to get the necessary information for delivery of the boat.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Kaye reported conversations with local Boy Scout Master Barry Johnson who is interested in starting an Explorer Post in the community. Kaye stated the purpose of Explorer Post, and the need for a sponsor for the group offering the idea of the Fire Department sponsoring the group. Board discussion ensued.

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- B. Asbel reported the Village Council approached the department asking for aid in placing the buoys in the harbor. Board agreed it was reasonable and will refer the item to the Chief.

CHIEF BLOK'S REPORT

Assistant Chief Phelps gave no report.

AUDIENCE

- A. Dan Shanahan asked if the new boat would be replacing the old boat. Kaye stated the matter has not been decided. Shanahan asked if the boat would have a separate line item within the budget. Board agreed it would. Shanahan asked if the department would be able to make money selling the old boat. Kaye acknowledged the River Queen boat would be most valuable if sold as a fire boat and not ~~scrapped~~ parted out. Shanahan asked if the department is trained for open water rescue. Kaye stated the Grand Haven Coast Guard is ready to come and train the members. Departmental member Joe Fucile updated all present about the planned process for training. General discussion ensued.
- B. Jane Wright asked to go back to Rick Zoulek and made it known that he came to her stating he would not go back to the fire barn but wanted to turn in his gear and talk to the Fire Board. She contacted Bill Kaye who then talked to Zoulek. Wright asked if there would be an exit interview of any kind by either the Board or the Personnel Committee. Kaye stated exit interviews would not be a board function and felt that would be part of the Personnel Committee's duties. Wright asked if the Personnel Committee could approach him still, as he was part of the Personnel Committee. Kaye stated he would share with the Chief and the Committee what Zoulek had talked to him about. General discussion ensued.
- C. Shanahan asked about the loan the department took out with Macatawa and how payments would be budgeted for. Kaye stated there would be quarterly interest payments and four annual principal payments that would be included in the budget.
- D. Joe Fucile brought the board up to date on several equipment issues including the new air cart, air supply to the tower truck, and the engine for the pick up truck. Board thanked Fucile for the update.

There being no further business, **motion by Kaye/Bekken to adjourn at 8:46 p.m.** Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, rec. sec.