

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 14, 2005**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Fire District was held on Monday, March 14, 2005 at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Raebel at 7:30 p.m.
Present: Jerry Bekken, Lance Winchester, Bill Kaye, Cliff Asbel and Marty Raebel.
Also Present: Chief John Blok and Auditor Joe Walls.
Absent: None.

Raebel opened the meeting to Auditor Joe Walls who reviewed the June 30, 2004 year end audit. Walls explained points and answered questions for the Board.

MINUTES

Pertaining to the minutes of 2/14/05, **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously. Pertaining to the minutes of 2/28/05, Kaye requested to include a last sentence "Board agreed to readdress subject in November" under #4, Greg Janik's non-vested money. **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to accept as amended.** Carried unanimously.

BILLS & FINANCIAL REVIEW

- A. Discussion and approval of bills. Bekken verified the mics purchased were necessary when the radios were changed to the new 911 repeater system. Kaye verified the 2 cold water rescue suits were paid through the donation fund. **Motion by Asbel/Winchester to approve bills in the amount of \$7,489.25 and payroll in the amount of \$5,746.53.** Motion to pay bills carried unanimously.
- B. Financial Review. Kaye noted the expenses are in line, with a few exceptions that were anticipated. Asbel asked about the workman's compensation insurance and why it was so much over the previous year. Wright stated the expense comparison through February last year only reflected 1 of the 3 payments and this year they reflect 2 of the 3.
- C. Review Proposed Budget Timeline. Wright presented preliminary revenue figures and the Board appointed Kaye and Bekken to the budget committee. Kaye set a budget workshop following the March 28th meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lakeshore Drive Fire Lane. Board discussed the potential of gaining a fire lane for emergency purposes only to the South side of the Lakeshore Drive washout and how the fire lane could be constructed and accessed. Winchester will investigate as to the home owners involved.

NEW BUSINESS

Appoint Interim Chair. Raebel stated the Township has accepted his resignation from the Board and he will be replaced at the end of the month. He noted the necessity for appointing an interim chair to replace him. **Motion by Asbel/Bekken to nominate Kaye as the interim chair.** Motion passed unanimously. Kaye thanked the Board for their support.

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CHIEF'S REPORT

- A. Chief stated the department has wanted to upgrade to a higher diameter hose for lying between a hydrant and the fire for some time, and the Graafschap department just donated 1000' of 4" hose for that purpose. The donation equates to roughly \$4,400 in value. He added we will need to purchase adapters for the hose in the amount of \$1,580. **Motion by Kaye/Bekken to authorize Chief to purchase adapters and any additional hose needed up to \$2,000.** Carried unanimously.
- B. Calls YTD are 92, same time last year 83. Of the 92, 26 were fire related and 66 medical.
- C. The phone line for 911 has been disconnected, replaced by the new radio system and will reflect a monthly savings.
- D. Graafschap will be ordering a ~~\$520,000~~ new pumper. Discussion took place as to departments that are starting to hire full time employees.
- E. Regarding the department by-laws, they state the department should maintain 30 members and 8 officers. Chief noted we no longer require that number due to the mutual aid we have in place. He added we currently have 18 members and 6 officers, and would like to get to 25 members and 8 officers. Board discussed running an advertisement and if feasible, holding a fire school in the fall. Chief stated we have 5 daytime members and 3 full time officers and 3 other officers that are generally available in the daytime. Board agreed to run advertisements in "The Commercial Record" and "The Local Observer" newspapers.

AUDIENCE

None.

There being no further business, **motion by Bekken/Kaye to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.** Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, rec. sec.