

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT  
PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 13, 2005**

A public hearing for the purpose of reviewing the 2005/2006 proposed budget and a regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Fire District were held on Monday, June 13, 2005 at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kaye at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Jerry Bekken, Lance Winchester, Reggie Smith, Bill Kaye, and Cliff Asbel.

Also Present: Chief John Blok.

Absent: None.

**PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2005/2006 BUDGET REVIEW**

Kaye declared the public hearing open, and asked for public comment or questions. Hank Gudith, Saugatuck Township Supervisor, was present and complimented the Fire Board and department staff for an excellent job in presenting a complete and concise budget. Kaye thanked Gudith for the comment, stating it was a team effort. Having no further public comment,

**Motion by Kaye/Bekken to close the public hearing portion of the meeting at 7:32 p.m.**

Carried unanimously.

**MINUTES**

Pertaining to the minutes of 5/9/05, **Motion by Smith/Bekken to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously. Pertaining to the minutes of 5/23/05, **Motion by Smith/Bekken to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously.

**BILLS & FINANCIAL REVIEW**

- A. Discussion and approval of bills. Kaye asked for questions regarding any of the bills. Having none, **Motion by Bekken/Winchester to approve bills in the amount of \$5,451.44 and payroll in the amount of \$10,304.20.** Motion to pay bills carried unanimously.
- B. Financial Review. Kaye noted the City of Saugatuck shows more tax revenue is forthcoming. Wright will follow up with the City Treasurer for receipt in current fiscal year. Asbel noted the improvement over previous year in interest earned. Wright noted a CD is maturing and Board discussed investment opportunities directing Wright to make the appropriate re-investment.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Lakeshore Drive Fire Lane. Smith working on a legal way to gain access and will bring the information to the next meeting. Board discussed the pros and cons of that approach, as well as other access means.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. 2004/2005 Budget Amendments. Wright presented the Board with line item budget amendments to allow for year end expenditures. Board discussed in detail and revised to allow for income from the sale of assets and additional capital expenditures expected. **Motion by Asbel/Bekken to amend the current fiscal year budget as revised and attached.** Carried unanimously.
- B. Adopt 2005/2006 Budget. Kaye noted the proposed budget has been approved by all three municipalities. Asbel verified there had been no changes made since the Fire Board

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submitted the budget for approval. **Motion by Bekken/Asbel to adopt the 2005/2006 budget as presented.** Carried unanimously.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

- A. Received \$5,900.00 balance on the sale of the school bus and ladder truck, add to miscellaneous income.
- B. Calls YTD 223, last year same time 207. 16 calls ahead of last year.
- C. Classes are done, all members attended with the exception of 3 individuals due to a conflict with work, and one night members were treated to pizza donated by Mike Johnson of Coral Gables. Asbel asked what result the classes will have. Blok stated we are now compliant with FEMA regulations and eligible for FEMA grants.
- D. 1000' of 5" hose has been received and fitted. Additional fittings previously approved were secured to the 4" hose donated by Graafschap. Members worked with the hose during the last meeting and fed 3 pieces of equipment with one hydrant. Blok added the hose will be extremely beneficial when dealing with long driveways or in the cities with multiple water sources.
- E. Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. the department responded to a call regarding a Consumers Energy transformer that was smoking and leaking oil. Did not get a response from Consumers until Thursday at 2:00 p.m. when they changed the transformer. Board discussed the situation in detail and agreed to bill Consumers for the call and re-bill for a call that they still haven't paid yet.
- F. Lightning caused a fire at the Denison property north of the river back in the dunes. This was a costly fire with 3 departments responding and members staying until 4:00 and 5:30 a.m. to put out flare ups. Needed to utilize jeeps and pick-ups with their tires deflated to get through the sand and back to the fire. The new light tower was brought out and aided in navigating through the dunes. The ground had pockets of peat moss and kept re-lighting which caused members to respond again the next day and required a bull dozer to drop trees and expose the peat. Wages alone were above \$2,300 and there were some equipment failures that will need to be repaired.
- G. Received a letter from an attorney informing us of a pretrial conference concerning the citation issued to the individual responsible for starting the woods fire recently. Blok will communicate with the attorney.
- H. Full turn out gear was used in fighting the Denison fire even during the heat of the day. Blok stated he would like to purchase some light Nomex® coveralls that could be used in the place of turn out gear under similar circumstances. Kaye inquired as to the cost of the investment. Blok stated the coveralls come in somewhat generic sizing and could be shared by members, thereby the purchase of 10 suits at \$220 each would be sufficient. Kaye noted if the suits were needed immediately, donation funds could be used and suggested getting a sample suit for the next meeting. Board discussed utilizing donation funds for the purchase.

**AUDIENCE**

None.

There being no further business, **motion by Bekken/Asbel to adjourn at 8:52 p.m.** Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, rec. sec.