

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2006**

A regular meeting of the Saugatuck Township Fire District was held on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at the Township Hall. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kaye at 7:30 p.m.

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

Also Present: Chief John Blok and Auditor Joe Walls.

Absent: None.

**AUDIENCE**

- A. Joe Walls, Review of Annual Audit. Walls walked members through the 6/30/05 annual audit in detail, stating the statements reflect a fair and positive financial situation for the department. He commended the handling of the FEMA grant and answered questions from the Board. General discussion took place and Board thanked Walls for attending.

**MINUTES**

Pertaining to the minutes of 12/12/05, **Motion by Bekken/Smith to accept as presented.**

Carried unanimously. Pertaining to the minutes of 12/26/05, **Motion by Bekken/Smith to accept as presented.** Carried unanimously.

**BILLS & FINANCIAL REVIEW**

- A. Discussion and Approval of Bills. Bekken verified the 5 Alarm bill for \$7,452.00 was for the new infrared camera. Board discussed the camera's abilities. **Motion by Bekken/Winchester to approve bills in the amount of \$27,440.52 and payroll in the amount of \$13,201.90.** Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Review of Financial Statements. Kaye noted 50% through the fiscal year. Blok stated the natural gas bill has increased dramatically and Board may need to amend the budget to allow for the utility rate increase.
- C. Quarterly Transaction Detail Review. Asbel asked about the hose truck reclassification. Kaye and Wright verified all bills for the truck alterations were paid through vehicle repairs and when complete, the entire cost of \$3,400 was deducted from repairs and reclassified to capital outlay.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Asbel relayed a news article showing a large burden on fire departments for elderly care facilities. Kaye stated the problem experienced with Harbors Health Care has been managed.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Personnel Handbook. Kaye stated the handbook is now complete. **Motion by Winchester/Bekken to approve the Personnel Policy and Handbook as submitted.** Carried unanimously. Board signed the document.
- B. Douglas DDA Meeting. Bekken and Winchester reported on the public hearing stating it will be a long time before the organizational process is complete. Wright suggested verifying if the fire authority could be exempt from the redirect of tax revenue and offered to investigate.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

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**CHIEF'S REPORT**

- A. 10 calls YTD, 3 house fires and 7 medicals, 2 calls ahead of last year. Ended 2005 with 555 calls, compared to 498 for 2004. Blok will have a complete breakdown at the next meeting.
- B. Next meeting will be January 23<sup>rd</sup> and Blok informed the Board of the annual party that will be held on January 28<sup>th</sup>. He asked members to make a personal effort to invite their municipality board/council members and have them involved with the party.
- C. Discussed the increase in the heating bill for the barns. Blok stated they keep the heat at 55 and can't lower it more. The back station gets lowered to 45 at night, so everything is being done to keep the expense down.
- D. Chief will be gone on vacation the month of February. Greg Janik will be in charge.

**AUDIENCE**

None.

There being no further business, **motion by Bekken/Winchester to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.**  
Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, rec. sec.