

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2006, 7:30 p.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Member Bekken called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members present: Douglas City Representative Jerry Bekken, Saugatuck Township Representative Reggie Smith, At-large Member Cliff Asbel, At-Large Member Lance Winchester, and Chief John Blok.

Absent, Excused: Chairman and Saugatuck City Representative Bill Kaye.

Public comment began at 7:30 p.m. Receiving none, public comment ended at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by Winchester, seconded by Smith to approve minutes of October 9, 2006, Fire Board regular meeting.** Motion to approve as presented carried unanimously. **Moved by Smith, seconded by Winchester to approve minutes of October 23, 2006, Fire Board workshop meeting.** Motion to approve as presented carried unanimously.

Financial Review:

- A. Discussion and approval of Bills. Bekken presented bills in the amount of \$133,368.23. Winchester verified the payment to Deep South was the cost of the new tanker less a \$5,000 downpayment. Smith inquired as to what the amount for petty cash was used for and Blok verified a large portion was to Gordon Foods for the Fall Open House. It was **moved by Winchester, seconded by Smith to approve paying the bills as presented.** Carried unanimously. Bekken presented payroll in the amount of \$36,132.49. **Moved by Bekken, seconded by Asbel to approve the payroll as presented.** Carried unanimously.
- B. Review of Financial Statements. Bekken noted a need to transfer money from the class pool to the checking account. Discussion as to the cash needs took place and Blok suggested deferring the decision as to how much to transfer until after his report. Asbel noted fuel costs are up a third and additional expenses have been incurred due to training and turn out gear for new members.

Correspondence:

- A. MERS Resolution for Adopting Benefit "E". Wright reminded Board they agreed adopting the benefit would be appropriate during the June and July meetings and presented the current cost and resolution to adopt it. Discussion took place as to whether the Board desired to adopt the "Traditional E" at a 2% increase, or a "Flexible E" at a different percent. It was **moved by Winchester, seconded by Smith to adopt the "Traditional E" MERS benefit resolution as presented.** Blok asked if it is the intention of the Board to adopt the resolution each year thereby giving retirees an annual cost of living increase. Board discussed and agreed notwithstanding unforeseen economic circumstances it is their intention to do so. Motion carried unanimously. Asbel acknowledged the Chief's performance in obtaining grants and methods of saving money.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Chief Blok's Report:

- A. It has been 7 to 8 years since constructing a new air fill station. During a recent inspection OSHA informed the department they may need to purchase a standard fill station in the future. Blok stated the City of Allegan Fire Department has teamed up with Allegan Township's department and they have a duplicate fill station (owned by Allegan County Firefighter Assoc.) they intend to take bids for, and sell. Discussion took place and it was **moved by Asbel, seconded by Smith to authorize a bid to purchase the air fill station for not more than \$4,500.** Carried unanimously.
- B. The fire boat will be coming out of the water soon. There is a desire to shrink wrap the boat this year at a price of \$531. Asbel stated the pros and cons of shrink wrap, discussion took place, and Board had no objections to the expenditure.
- C. The new radios went into service today. Blok demonstrated the new personal pager.
- D. Inspection program has been demoed and is not proving compatible with the current computer fire program, but Inspector Janik will continue to research different software.
- E. Fire program is only on one computer which is a problem. Shoreline Computer suggested placing the program on either the City of Saugatuck or the Township's file server and then access the program through the internet, thereby allowing multiple accesses. The cost to set the program up would be \$500. **Moved by Smith, seconded by Asbel to put the fire program on the Township's file server at a cost of \$500.** Carried unanimously.
- F. A new member has completed EMT school at his own cost and now passed the state exam. Blok suggested reimbursing him. **Moved by Bekken, seconded by Winchester to reimburse Joel Stoin \$352 for education expense.** Carried unanimously.
- G. Fire school is looking for a house to train in. Have until January 2nd or 3rd if anybody knows of one scheduled to be torn down.

Cash needs discussion took place and it was **moved by Asbel, seconded by Smith to transfer \$20,000 from the class pool to checking.** Carried unanimously. There being no further business it was **Moved by Bekken, seconded by Winchester to adjourn at 8:50 p.m.** Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date

Bill Kaye, Chairman

Date