

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2007, 7:30 p.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP HALL
3461 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MICHIGAN 49453**

MINUTES

Chairman Bill Kaye called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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

Absent: None.

Kaye offered public comment. Receiving none, public comment ended at 7:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: **Moved by Bekken, seconded by Winchester to approve the minutes of August 6, 2007, Fire Board special meeting.** Motion to approve as presented carried unanimously. **Moved by Smith, seconded by Bekken to approve the minutes of August 13, 2007, Fire Board regular meeting.** Motion to approve as presented carried unanimously. **Moved by Asbel, seconded by Bekken to approve the minutes of August 27, 2007, Fire Board workshop meeting.** Motion to approve as presented carried unanimously.

Bills and Financial Review:

- A. Discussion and Approval of Bills. Kaye presented bills in the amount of \$33,029.43. **Moved by Winchester, seconded by Asbel to approve paying the bills as presented.** Kaye asked what a “strotz” suction valve was. Blok corrected the spelling to “stotz” and explained they were purchased at a reduced price. Kaye noted the ATV purchase and 3 months of health insurance were included with the bills which made up \$20,000 of the total amount to be paid. Motion to pay bills carried unanimously. Kaye presented payroll in the amount of \$15,307.35. **Moved by Asbel, seconded by Winchester to approve the payroll as presented.** Motion to approve the payroll carried unanimously.
- B. Review of Financial Statements. Board discussed cash balance and requested \$35,000 to be transferred from the class pool to checking.

Correspondence: Kaye read a letter from Smith stating he is moving from the area and is submitting his resignation to the STFD Board effective September 30th. Kaye complimented Smith for his outstanding job on the Board and noted the Township will have difficulty finding a replacement. Board regretfully accepted his resignation and Smith thanked the Board for the time served.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: None.

Chief Blok's Report:

- A. Blok reported receiving a check from MMRA for \$1,053.00 which represents our share of a net assets distribution, or rebate.
- B. Received a list of supplies needed for fire prevention week at the elementary school. The total of \$1,155.00 includes material given to students in first, second, third, fourth, and fifth grades. Janik stated the gifts are well received and enjoyed by the students. Blok stated the department is gearing up for the annual kick off to fire prevention week with the fire station open house.
- C. Department is going to perform a training burn on an abandoned house 1 week from Wednesday. The house, which is located at 126th and Blue Star, is owned by Ron Wilkins and Bob VerPlank and has been approved for training purposes. Department will be using a truck from Spencer outfitted with a compressed air foam system (CAFS) to gain experience with the new system we ordered with some of the FEMA grant money.
- D. Blok had a discussion with Lowell Winnie and Brent VanOss who have taken the Chief and Deputy Chief positions at the Fennville Fire Department. They have requested a 90 day leave of absence due to the extra duties required with Fennville. Blok noted 2 day-time firefighters will be lost and Smith asked if the rest of the department can pick up the slack. Blok responded yes, but the number of First Responder's available is getting critical. He added we have sent 6 to school and 3 or 4 have not passed testing yet. Kaye wondered if the testing has become too difficult. Blok did admit it is hard but referred to the monthly run sheet showing 40 medicals and 0 fires. He passed around a news article which stated many departments are having a problem maintaining trained staff.
- E. Received the title for the ATV and it is now insured. Press release is not ready yet.
- F. Unit #1121 First Responder unit has engine exhaust leaks. It was taken to RE Barber and they found and repaired several, but found another after it was put back together again. They originally quoted around \$800 - \$900 to fix, but now are asking for an additional \$680. Blok voiced his frustration over the additional expense.

Bekken verified there has been no new information on the new truck. There being no further business it was **Moved by Bekken, seconded by Asbel to adjourn at 8:14 p.m.** Carried unanimously.

Jane Wright, CMC, Township Clerk

Date

Bill Kaye, Chairman

Date