

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE BOARD
WORKSHOP MEETING**

**Monday October 25, 2010, 9:00 a.m.
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE BARN
3342 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MI 49453
MINUTES**

Chairman Kaye called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Chairman and Saugatuck City Representative Bill Kaye, Douglas City Representative Jerry Bekken, Saugatuck Township Representative Eric Beckman, At-large Member Lance Winchester.

Also Present: Chief John Blok

Absent: At-large Member Scott Phelps

Public comment began at 9:00 a.m. No comments were received. Public comment ended 9:01 a.m.

Chief's Report:

- 1) **Felker Subdivision:** The City of the Village of Douglas, Saugatuck Township Fire District is reviewing an agreement with property owners Randall and Tara DeGeer of Hinsdale IL. for an easement to the subdivision. The Easement will be maintained by the DeGeers.
 - a. **Board roll call vote to approve the agreement:** Kaye: yes Bekken: yes Winchester: yes and Beckman: yes
 - b. **Chief Signature:** The chief pointed out that on occasions he will have to sign agreements like the aforementioned easement but wanted this one in the minutes. Chairman Kaye pointed out that these types of agreements do not require board's approval and Chief is authorized to sign such documents on behalf of the Saugatuck Township Fire District but would like to be informed of all agreements.
- 2) **Vine St. Reconstruction:** - On hold due to the lack of turnaround required in the Fire Code. The property owner is not willing at this point to turn over any property. The City has asked the Fire District to send a letter to the state approving of the engineer's plan for the turnaround.
- 3) **Personnel issue-** Chief had Joe and Greg working together again starting October 18th. They will take turns answering medical pages. Self reviews are almost complete, once they are done, Chief will start the individual review process.
- 4) **Cost Recovery Act-** Response to a brush fire on John Huyge property late Saturday night Oct. 22 and a return call the following morning Oct 23. No burn permit was issued. Mr. Huyge runs a leaf compost business but also take other brush for a fee. The three local municipalities have utilized his property to drop off brush at no cost. The City of Saugatuck has quit hauling to the site because of the mess and went back to the old Airport property which they own. Due to the fact Mr. Huyge was not issued a burn permit, the Chief believes that this brush was intentionally set and it got out of control. The Fire District has made multiple calls to this property in the past and Chief feels it's time to recoup some of this labor and equipment usage. The Chief also pointed out that Allegan County sets the rates for equipment.

a. **Breakdown of recovery:**

- i. Foam 10gals = \$ 170.00
- ii. Fire aid 5gals =\$ 125.00
- iii. Wages = \$ 322.00
- iv. Total = \$ 617.00

5) **Burn Permits-** 26 burn permits were issued in the township over the weekend 10/22- 10/24.

a. **Some requirements to receive a burn permit:**

- i. Smoke cannot interfere with neighbors
- ii. Fire must be out by dark
- iii. Property owner is not off the hook if fire gets away from them.

6) **Fire Boat-** The request has been made to Tower Marina to take the boat out of the water. Once the boat is out of the water, Joe will power wash the bottom and winterize it.

At 9:38 a.m. having no further business to come before the board they stood adjourned.

Eric Beckman, Recording Secretary

Date

Bill Kaye, Chairman

Date