

**SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE BOARD  
WORKSHOP MEETING**

**Monday April 25, 2011, 6:30 p.m.  
SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE BARN  
3342 BLUE STAR HWY, SAUGATUCK, MI 49453  
MINUTES**

Chairman Kaye called the meeting to order at 6:30p.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, At-large Member Scott Phelps

**Also Present:** Interim Chief Linus Starring

**Absent:** None

**Chairman's Report:**

- Chief's Resignation- As of Friday April 22, 2011 at 4:00pm the Chief decided to resign on his own accord. It was the Chief's decision. The Board Thanks Chief Block for 47 years of service (37 years as Fire Chief) to our community. We wish him well in his retirement!
  - Commercial Record/ Local Observer- The Board/Firefighters-First Responders will place an ad in these local papers thanking Chief for his service
  - Interim Chief Starring suggested that we include the latest picture of the department.
- Chairman Kaye made a motion to make Linus Starring Interim chief, Phelps 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed unanimously.
  - Interim Chief Starring with be 101 and 102 will be open.
  - Chairman Kaye and At-Large Member Phelps met with the Officers on Saturday April 23, 2011 to discuss and develop a plan of action. Chairman Kaye was pleased and impressed with the Officers. The Officers were very accommodating and will do everything they can to make this transition go smoothly and continue to provide the best possible safety for the public.
  - Daytime Coverage- Lori Nash (FF/MR) will continue to serve as administrator/inspector and Tim Hurtman (FF/MR) is available full time. Wayne Mokma (FF) will continue to work part time and is available for calls.
- Payroll- The Board decided to increase Tim Hurtman's Part-time wages to \$ 18.00hr. The Board also recommends that Interim Chief Starring receive an addition \$ 500.00 per month for the interim Chief position.
- Ford Expedition: It was decided that the Duty Officer will drive this vehicle. This vehicle is registered with the state of Michigan as a rescue vehicle. Steven and Tim cleaned it up. There was a question about the transmission in this vehicle but both Steven and Tim didn't feel any problems. If the problem does arise, the board recommends getting it serviced at McGee's.
- Boat- Discussion regarding leaving the Fire Boat out of the water this year. (Ex-Chief Blok suggested this before he left). We will leave it covered. Discussion about selling the boat was tabled at this time. Reasons discussed for not using the Fire boat this year:
  - Low water levels
  - Training issues
  - Other boats, smaller and more maneuverable are available to cover during this low water level.
- Unit # 1121- Will be pulled (4/26/11) from service to repair a starting issue. It should only be out of service one day. Unit # 1122 will be used as a backup but is not registered with the state.
- Unit # 1622- Chairman Kaye asked if a cover is needed for the back of the pickup. It was discussed and decided that the equipment in the back of the truck does not need to be covered.
- End of Year Budget dollars: Chairman Kaye pointed out that there is budgeted money available for quite a few line items and asked that they be reviewed.
- Insurance update: Lori Nash is working on the updates and there is a May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.
- Cummings Service Bulletin: Linus is taking care this.
- K & R check for rollover incident # 153 4/14/11. Check submitted to Clerk Wright for deposit.
- Vine St. - The turn around at the end of the street meets the Fire Code (inspected 4/25/11) with a few minor hydrant adjustments, but otherwise good to go. Kirk Harrier was notified.

- Fire Code: It's time again to get the three municipalities to adapt the 2009 fire code. They will also have to appoint an Official
- Fleis & VandenBrink- Meeting on Tuesday or Wednesday, regarding 2 hydrants on the end of Butler St. The SE corner is approved. The NW corner is waiting on the City of Saugatuck. They will call when they are ready.
- Ladder testing- Tower truck will need its annual inspection/testing.
- Split Band Radios: Ex-Chief was scheduled (4/21/11) to attend an informational meeting at the county level regard this new system- The Chief did not attend. It is unclear when the change to this system is required. There is no established date or funds at this time. The Board will discuss putting funding in next years budget.
- Pine Trail Camp- Dump Tank water supply was discussed and they will be installing a gate for our equipment.
- Fire Barn Vehicle Exhaust System- the Board asked for updated quotations for the Vehicle Exhaust System for the Fire Barn. The Board will budget for the capital purchase in the new budget. Old quotations were approximately \$ 70,000.
- Priority Health- A letter was received from Priority Health regarding additional out of pocket expenses that will occur up front, for our Full Time employees. These expenses will be reimbursed.
- Wayne Mokma- Wayne has been added to the roster and assigned an ID number with the blessing of Graafschap's Chief Cal Haverdink.
- Allegan County asked for a formal letter regarding the change in command. Lori will put one together and have Chairman Kaye sign.
- Budget: At-large Member Lance Winchester has submitted and updated budget to Clerk Wright utilizing the same millage as last year. A Budget meeting has been called for Saturday 4/30/11 at 9:00am at the Fire barn.
- Inspector Position: Chairman Kaye and Township Representative Beckman meet to review and discuss the applicants for the inspector position. We received about 14 applications and they are all good candidates. "It's going to be a tough decision".
- Chief Position- Chairman Kaye and Township Representative Beckman will be drafting an Ad. We will be advertising to a broader market utilizing the Lansing, Kalamazoo papers as well as our local papers. We also will be investigating advertising on a trade website.

At 7:17 p.m. having no further business to come before the board they stood adjourned.

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Eric Beckman, Recording Secretary

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Date

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Bill Kaye, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date