



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



3342 Blue Star Highway
Saugatuck, MI 49453
Phone: 269 857-3000
E-mail: Office@saugatuckfire.org

FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETING

4:00pm – July 17th, 2017

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order / Roll Call: **Meeting called to order by J. Verplank at 4:03pm**
Present: **R. McIlwaine, E. Beckman, J. Verplank, S. Phelps, K. Mooradian, T. Christensen, M. Starring (arrived at 5:26pm)**
Absent with prior notice: **None**
Also Present: **Chief Greg Janik, P. Stanislawski**
2. Approval of Agenda (*additions / deletions*):
 - A. **Motion by Beckman to approve the agenda as presented. Discussion ensued. R. McIlwaine requested item 7a. Cost Recovery Policy be removed from the agenda.**
 - B. **Motion by Beckman, 2nd by Phelps to approve the agenda as amended removing item 7a. Cost Recovery Policy including a workshop between the Township & Fire Board. All approve, motion carries unanimously.**
3. Approval of Minutes:
 - A. **June 19th, 2017**
 - a. **Motion by Mooradian, 2nd by Christensen to approve the minutes as presented. All approve, motion carries unanimously.**
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only (Limit 3 minutes):
 - A. **L. Starring recommends J. Verplank for position of Fireboard Chair.**
 - B. **C. Mantels recommends J. Verplank for position of Fireboard Chair.**
 - C. **M. England recommends J. Verplank for position of Fireboard Chair.**
 - D. **E. Sturm recommends J. Verplank for position of Fireboard Chair.**
 - E. **M. Betts recommends J. Verplank for position of Fireboard Chair.**
 - F. **L. Starring comments on the Fire Code issues and requests for the Fire Board to dig their heels in and fight for a uniform fire code within all 3 municipalities. It is time to take a stand for the safety of the residents and the firefighters and first responders. To have two sets of rules does not make sense.**
 - G. **N. Curcio – Township Attorney – drafts going back and forth between the Township and the Fire District. Township is intending to shift responsibility from the Fire District, and to the Zoning Administrator. The amendments will require minimum widths to surface widths of driveways and private roads. Rather than having the IFC turnaround requirements, the Township proposes a turnaround that may be utilized for turnaround, but not meet IFC requirements. The Township Board welcomes input and comment from the Fire Board.**
 - H. **G. Janik – The people of the Fire District deserve the best service possible. Chief stands by the premise that by reducing the minimum fire code requirements is not in the best interest of the residents and the citizens the District protects. His opinion, from years of experience, and this be better regulated by the Fire District and the well-educated plan reviewers and fire inspectors. Chief respects the builders, but they should stick to the four walls within the building, not the access for the emergencies. The builders will not be there at 2:00am to help us fight the fire. Only the Township feels the need to change, in fact Douglas just passed the 2015 International Fire Code. Steve Kushion is a great guy, but he should stick to zoning and let the fire department have review on emergency access. Chief Janik is tired of getting bullied and pushed around by a few Township staff. Does the Fire Board want the Township to run the Fire Department, or the Fireboard, it's Chief, and its Fire Officers?**



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



5. Fire Chief Comments:

A. Incident Reports / Calls to Date / Overlapping Calls

1. Incident Report Statistics were reviewed. 359 Calls to Date for 2017
2. 5:29 – average response time year to date.

B. Inspections/Plan Reviews

1. Inspection report since 6/19/2017 board meeting was reviewed.

C. Community Risk Reduction

1. Community CPR Courses
 - i. 2017 CPR Course Dates are posted at www.saugatuckfire.org/cpr
2. Holland Sentinel – Reflective Address Sign Article
3. Genesis Trailer Donation – Sprinkler Burn Cell Demonstration Unit
 - i. Discussed the new plan with steel shipping container.
4. #760 – Collaborative Rescue Project
 - i. Discussed the heavy rescue joint project with Graafschap Fire and Hamilton Fire for extra cribbing and tools for the increased motor vehicle incidents.

D. Grant Updates

1. RAP Grant Submitted – CCTV/Card Access Additions - \$10,028 with District Share of \$5,041.

E. Injury – Mike Betts

1. Back injury from motor vehicle incident on I-196.

F. Donations

1. ESCAPE Inc – 28' Enclosed Trailer Donation Received
2. Coral Gables – Request to donate Climbing Wall Tower
 - i. Board requests Chief Janik write a nice letter to Mike Johnson and thank him for his willingness to donate. Unfortunately, the fire district has no need for the climbing tower.

6. Request for Payment:

a. Account Payables

- i. Motion by Phelps, 2nd by Beckman to pay the bills in the amount of \$123,050.41. All approve, motion carries unanimously.
- ii. K. Mooradian discussed Workman's Comp & Motorola invoices.

b. Financial Report

- i. Financial Report was reviewed by P. Stanislawski.

7. Unfinished Business:

~~A. Cost Recovery Policy – Roll Call Vote~~ TABLED for FUTURE MEETING.

B. Legal Advertising Rates

- i. C. Mantels reviewed pricing summary of each newspapers approximate costs and presented to the board.
- ii. R. McIlwaine stated that he prefers we do not advertise in the Local Observer because of the lies and innuendos that Mike Gallagher posts in his paper, but even he can't refute Mike Gallagher's willingness to donate almost \$2,000 in free advertising to the fire department God bless him. R. McIlwaine requested that the fire board explain publicly why his son was terminated. He asked Greg and Jane to publicly explain why his son was terminated, and that has not happened yet. If it was a change in job descriptions.
- iii. G. Janik explained that he suggested to Roy to talk to Mike Gallagher directly if Roy had concerns about what was published. He stated the job description was changed to suit the needs of the department.
- iv. E. Beckman requested that we leave personnel issues confidential within the fire board and the administration.



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



- v. The board recommended that legal advertising is left to the leadership of the fire department.
- C. MDOT – I196 Corridor Camera Install Request
 - i. Chief Janik has not located the right person to find cameras to install.
- D. Fire Prevention Open House Date – Sunday 10/1/2017
- 8. New Business:
 - A. Funding Approval Request – Dash Cameras
 - a. Motion by Beckman, 2nd by Mooradian to purchase the dash cameras in the amount of \$17,402 with \$11,602 from the District Capital plan, and \$5,800 to be funded from the MMRMA RAP grant award that was received.
YEAS: Mcllwaine, Beckman, Verplank, Phelps, Mooradian, Christensen
NEAS: None
Absent: Starring
 - B. Township Planning Commission Meeting – 7/24/2017
 - a. Fire Code and Roads
 - i. G. Janik explained there are two public hearings and wanted the Fire Board to be aware of the upcoming Planning Commission meeting.
 - ii. Fire District has not received an amended Fire Code Ordinance from the Township yet.
 - iii. R. Mcllwaine – it seemed like at the previous Wednesday meeting the C. Mantels the Township and the Fire District were pretty close to agreement on both ordinances.
 - iv. C. Mantels – many of the statements I prefaced with were “I don’t know what Chief Janik approved or agreed to.” I understood Chief Janik & Steve Kushion had last agreed to the Policy Statement, and found no need to amend the IFC or Road ordinances. It was clear in the meeting last week that the Township Manager does not actively listen and the agreements within the meetings are not included in the next revision. I also made the statement several times that “I can’t speak for the Chief.” We have not received the most recent version of the proposed ordinances.
 - v. E. Beckman – said Steve stated he would email the revisions last Wednesday after the meeting.
 - vi. C. Mantels – that is the concern with the lack of follow through, and even when the Township states they will send over documents, it doesn’t happen.
 - vii. R. Mcllwaine – will ensure he follows up with Steve Kushion to ensure documents are sent over to the Fire District as soon as possible.
 - viii. J. Verplank – her name has been brought up several times that she caused several revisions, and she has not weighed in on the revisions. Just because the Township said she did, does not mean she did and she is not a liar.
 - ix. G. Janik – several of these revisions have had items omitted. It is clear that the Township Attorney does not know the fire code, and you can see that in the wording of the proposed ordinances. E. Beckman was told that Chief Janik had been invited to the Wednesday meeting, however he was never contacted or invited, and was in Petoskey.
 - x. E. Beckman – yes, I was told by Aaron Sheridan that Greg would be at the meeting.
 - xi. G. Janik – keeps hearing that he is the cause of 11 revisions, however it is the Township who continues to omit items that are agreed upon.
 - b. LED Sign Application
 - i. Steve Kushion will be proposing and ordinance amendment to allow the LED sign.
 - C. Election of Fire Board Officers
 - a. S. Phelps would like the board to stay with the same elected officers. They have all done a good job, and he would like to see them continue in their roles.
 - b. R. Mcllwaine requested that he no longer serve the position of Board Secretary.



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



Motion by Phelps, 2nd by Mooradian to appoint J. Verplank as Fireboard Chairperson.

YEAS: Beckman, Starring, Verplank, Phelps, Mooradian, Christensen

NEAS: McIlwaine

ABSENT: None

Motion by Phelps, 2nd by Christensen to appoint E. Beckman as Fireboard Vice-Chairperson.

YEAS: McIlwaine, Beckman, Starring, Verplank, Phelps, Mooradian, Christensen

NEAS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion by Phelps, 2nd by Beckman to appoint M. Starring as Fireboard Secretary

YEAS: McIlwaine, Beckman, Starring, Verplank, Phelps, Mooradian, Christensen

NEAS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion by Verplank, 2nd by Beckman to appoint S. Phelps as Fireboard Vice-Secretary

YEAS: McIlwaine, Beckman, Starring, Verplank, Phelps, Mooradian, Christensen

NEAS: None

ABSENT: None

9. Correspondence:

A. Letter Received – John Mileskiewicz

B. Joe & Sharon Wyman – Cardiac Arrest – 5 shocks

- i. Thank you to the Fire board for providing all of the AED's throughout the District. No other fire department in the county has provided these tools to protect the public. Thanks to geography, and early defibrillation saved another life.**

10. Public Comments: (Limit 3 minutes):

- A. C. Mantels – compliment Township on buying AED. Voices frustration again with the Township, and their spending of money on Attorneys, even paying Nick to attend the Fireboard meeting.**
- B. P. Stanislawski – if you are going to change attorneys due to potential conflicts of interest, then you might need to change finance directors and auditing firms due to other conflicts of interest. If we start replacing one professional service, we might need to replace other professional services.**
- C. J. Verplank – if you are going to suggest there is a conflict of interest, there needs to be some evidence to substantiate those claims.**
- D. G. Janik – if there is a conflict of interest with the attorney, he would like a letter stating the specific conflict of interest.**
- E. M. England requests the Township to put the Fire Code to bed. Firefighters have died because codes have been skipped. When will enough blood be enough blood?**

11. Fire Board Comments:

- A. R. McIlwaine requests that Attorney Discussion be at the next fire board agenda.**
- B. E. Beckman supports Greg 100% and the Fire Board and what we have been doing has been working, and we need to work together to get things done.**
- C. E. Beckman supports Jane and her re-elected Chairperson position. Eric has received comments asking if Jane works for the Fire Department? Eric knows Jane puts a lot of blood sweat and tears into the fire department, but suggests that if there are decisions that need to be made, the board should have a part in in.**
- D. J. Verplank – agrees and clarified that Greg runs the department and makes the decisions.**



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



- E. E. Beckman – asking about the gates on the bike trail and if they can be installed at the Township's expense.
- F. G. Janik is working with trail engineers as they will not allow gates to be installed. Greg is working to get stop lights and stop signs installed at the MDOT expense.
- G. M. Starring apologies for being late to the meeting.
- H. T. Christensen wants everyone to keep in mind that we are the greater Saugatuck-Douglas area and not just one entity.
- I. K. Mooradian – please re-enter discussion with open minds.
- J. S. Phelps – things will get worked out. We will survive.

12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 5:46pm

NOTICE

This facility is wheel chair accessible with accessible parking spaces available. Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Saugatuck Township Fire District at 269-857-3000 for further information.