

Hamlin Township Fire Board Meeting

Monday, May 5, 2014 @ 19:00 Hrs.

The meeting was called to order by chairperson Jon Reincke @ 19:02 hrs.

Board members present: Gleason, Boomer, Reincke, Risner & Black.

Township Supervisor: Phil Bombrys

Fire Department: Chief Blackmer & A.A. Simpson

Chair Reincke asked if there is any changes to the agenda. Chief Blackmer asked if the "Rank Structure" item could be mover to the last item of his report. Request granted.

Public comments: none

Chair Reincke asked for an update for our department web site. AA Simpson said that we are looking for a new company to create a new website for the department. Twp. Supervisor Bombrys said that we most likely would set up a website for the township offices and the fire department together. More to follow.

Fire Chief's report: Blackmer

Scott gave an update of the fire department. FF Art Reist is on a leave of absence until June. Scott gave an update on the staff. We currently have 22 FF's including those in training. Scott also stated that he has several good prospects for more members for the near future. Scott stated that his goal is to bring the total number up to 25 or 26 FF's.

Scott presented a proposed brochure for the upcoming millage vote renewal this August. The Fire Board members and township supervisor and Chief discussed many issues that need to be changed and new wording for many of the information in the brochure. Scott stated that Darlene would make the changes and email them to the members of the fire board before the upcoming Twp. Board meeting next week.

Scott presented the board with a new proposed rank structure for the fire department. Discussion followed and all board members supported the change. Scott will present the new structure at the upcoming Twp. Board meeting next week.

A.A. Simpson presented a proposed upgrade of the Fire Departments I.T. needs. To include a new copier and 2 new computers. Our present copier is out of order and is very old. This was purchased as a used piece of equipment. The changes would eliminate 2 P.C.s, 1 printer and our fax machine. The pc in dispatch will be used for our connection with Central Dispatch and for officer's use. Paul stated that he has discussed this with the I.T. dept. at Central Dispatch and the new PC could be set up to full fill both needs. The total dollars will be in the range of \$2,700. Paul stated that we could save about \$400 if we purchased the P.C.'s ourselves. Scott stated that the cost would be used from the fire millage account. We had decided we should go with the Polack Corp. because the Twp. office uses their services and has a maintenance contract with the company and they would also take care of the fire department.

Scott discussed old 1313 truck. All equipment and hoses have been removed from the truck and it is ready to be sold. Scott stated that he has listed the truck with Fenton Fire out of Detroit for \$60,000. Fenton has helped us sell several of our old trucks in the past. Scott stated that he hoped to get \$35,000 to \$40,000 for the truck.

Scott stated that our new 1313 has been completed at Spencer Fire and will be headed to Spartan Corp. next week for the final installation of needed equipment. New seating, and upgrade and repair the foam system. We expect to take delivery by the end of May or the first part of June.

Supervisor Bombrys reviewed a meeting he attended with Eaton County E.M.S., Eaton Rapids City Fire and ER Township Fire. Phil reported that response times have improved since Mr. Truba has started a new response service. He also stated that because of increased cost for the county EMS that there will be an increase in cost for the 2 townships and the city of Eaton Rapids.

There being no more business Chair Reincke declared the meeting adjourned @ 21:00 hrs.

The next meeting will be August 11, 2014 @ 19:00 hrs.

Submitted by A.A. Simpson