

UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
December 8, 2015

The Upper Merion Township Fire and Rescue Services Board (FRSB) met for its regularly scheduled meeting on December 8, 2015, in the Administrative Conference Room in the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

The following members of the FRSB were present: Chief Dennis Orangers, Swedeland Fire Company; Chief Jerry Recupido, Swedesburg Fire Company; Chief James Gallagher, King of Prussia Fire Company; Chief Pam Forster, Lafayette Ambulance Squad; Board Member Charles Rossi; Board Member Bill Gittins; Board Member Bernie Gutkowski; Board Member Bill Gittins; Board of Supervisors Liaison Carole Kenney; and Staff Liaison, William Daywalt.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made to approve the minutes of 11/10/15. All were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Recupido distributed some flyers for the recruitment and retention grant materials and presented them for approval; he chiefs will be able to pick from several different options. Banners as well as tee shirts are also being considered. The cost of the shirts would be ten dollars each, and the cost of banners has yet to be determined.

Chief Orangers noted that the new Ladder 48 has been delivered and is currently having equipment installed and being lettered. Training on the new ladder will be done by the manufacturer at Swedeland.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Fire and Rescue Services Board held a discussion in reference to the apartments being built at the Village at Valley Forge. The apartments are wood construction and are not sprinklered in all areas but meet the current code. Chief Gallagher also expressed concern that the 5,000 square foot Fire and EMS building at the Village at Valley Forge is not large enough.

Chief Gallagher asked questions in reference to whether or not the Fire Marshal's Office has been entering incident reports into Firehouse Software. Mr. Daywalt suggested that the fire companies still enter the reports while the Fire Marshal's office catches up on entering them.

Chief Recupido discussed the idea of joining Norristown Fire Department to purchase a smoke house. The cost is \$95,000.00 and could be paid for through grant monies and relief association funds.

Chief Gallagher explained that from the \$25,000.00 allocation from the relief association, \$16,000.00 is earmarked for maintenance and repair of equipment.

There is some concern that the additional funds will not be enough and that the allocation should be increased. Chiefs Orangers and Forster commented that the purchase of apparatus within budget should not be paid using relief funds, and Chief Forster made a motion that no relief funds shall be used for apparatus within budget effective immediately. The motion was seconded by Chief Gallagher. All were in favor.

Staff Liaison's Report:

Deputy Fire Marshall Bill Daywalt reported on response statistics along with his monthly activity report for the month of November. A motion was made to accept the Staff Liaison's Report, and all were in favor.

Board of Supervisors Liaison's Report:

Supervisor Kenney reported that the Board of Supervisors met with the Upper Merion Area School Board and discussed improving communications between the two entities. She also mentioned that the new community center is scheduled to open sometime in the spring.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting of the Upper Merion Township Fire and Rescue Services Board is scheduled for January 13, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. in the Administrative Conference Room of the Township Building.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.

Charles Rossi, Secretary

Sms

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered: