WESTFIELD FIRE AND RESCUE DISTRICT MEETING

1/16/2024

Patterson called the Westfield Township Fire and Rescue Meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Role Call: Patterson, Schmidt, Horner

Others in attendance: ZI Carr, Fiscal Officer Kurtz, Chief Hall, Assistant Chief Dave Young, Carol Rumburg, Greg McGlashan.

No comments from the floor.

Jan 2, 2024 minutes will be completed by Kent Patterson and addressed at the next township meeting.

Chief Hall provided an update: 20 calls, including mutual aid to Seville, Lafayette and Lodi. Received mutual aid 3 times in the township. Provided update on billing. 11 total transports by EMS. Still working on the year end report, should have ready by February meeting.

Equipment sold- cub cadet utv exceeding the reserve price set. Sold for $9,760. Money received by wire transfer.

The fire chief's command car 1662, it is starting to rot out and run rough. Played recording of the engine for the board to hear. The Chief would like to downside to an Explorer if possible. Board discussed repair costs from last year. Repairs over the past three years were roughly a little over $9,000. The cost for a new vehicle with lights and sirens is around $50,000. This does not include graphics. The Chief asks the board to please think about this as a future purchase. FO Kurtz said she will know more about funds for 2024 in February.

FO Kurtz asked if the siren maintenance of the vehicles should be paid for by the fire district. She asked the board if they wanted the funds to be paid for out of the general funds of the township.

Trustee Patterson made a motion to remove the cost of siren maintenance from the fire district budget and move it to the township budget. Schmidt seconded the motion.

Role call- Patterson- yes, Schmidt- yes, Horner- yes. Motion passed.

Board asked for the Chief to get prices on a new vehicle and on the repairs of the current engine. Schmidt suggested getting a quote to see what the engine noise is about.

Tornado sirens can be set off manually, the hard drive is currently down. Chief will order a new one. Cost is $395.

Grant- EMS equipment reimbursement grant is in. They received $16,991 in grants.

Marks Grant was received in the amount of $9,900. $900 is for user fees and the other $9,000 is to be used on equipment.

Assistant Chief Young said we are in grant season and is educating himself and looking for all options. If any costs are associated, he will address it with the Board first.

Patterson discussed the start time of the meeting, possibly starting sooner. Board agreed to keep an eye on how the next few meetings go, possibly changing the start time in the future to 6:15 pm.

Chief discussed cutting employee costs by eliminating time and half costs for fire/rescue calls between 10 pm and 6 am. Chief said the team is completely worth the pay, but with the need for budget cuts, this would be his suggestion.

Patterson suggested highlighting the fire and rescue team more on our facebook page and website. He will discuss it with Terri Grimm.

Accident and sickness insurance and critical illness coverage was discussed. The Board asks for more time to review the information sent to them in email. FO Kurtz asked for a decision to be made at the next meeting if possible. Schmidt asked how this coverage differs from what is already offered and what happens since many of our firefighters work for multiple stations, so who would cover the expense and how would you determine what call, or which station you were working for, when you became sick. FO Kurtz referred to the email for any information.

FO Kurts gave updates on fund status and payments.

Fund status: $174,393.73 Money market savings: $121,945.83 Primary checking account balance: $52,447.90

W2s are prepared.

BP credit cards will be closed and Pilot will be the credit card used for gas purchases.

Patterson made a motion to approve payments to be made in the amount of $20,759.30 Horner seconded the motion.

Patterson-yes, Schmidt- yes, Horner- yes. Motion passed.

Next meeting is February 5, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

Patterson made a motion to close the meeting. Schmidt seconded the motion. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37

Minutes prepared by: Julie Carr, Township Administrator

Signed,

Michael Schmidt

Kent Patterson

Craig Horner