

Emergency Services Committee
November 17, 2022

Call to Order: The meeting began at 6:30PM at Township Building with the following Members in attendance: Michael Foltz, Chair, Keith Gabel, Rodney Wagner, Michael Zomolsky, Kim McGrath, and Terry Jones. Also in attendance was Troy Bingaman, Township Manager

Approval of Notes: Mr. Foltz stated he drafted notes for the October 20, 2022 meeting. He asked if anyone had any concerns or changes. Hearing none, notes were approved.
Mr. Foltz continued down the agenda.

Open Issues: Mr. Foltz reviewed the following open issues from the September 16th meeting:

- a) Status update on progress of standardized SOP's – Mr. Zomolsky & Mr. Gable indicated the fire companies are working the SOG's. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the need for a Drug & Alcohol Policy and the need for an agreement with the hospitals. Mr. Zomolsky stated he checked with the local Urgent Care and they would be able to do these tests for the Township/Departments. The Fire Departments are using the Township's Policy as a model to develop requirements for the Fire Services. The main issue here is post-accident testing. Everyone agreed this was an important item to implement. Mr. Jones and Mrs. McGrath felt the cost of these tests could be paid through the revenues generated from the already established fire tax.
- b) While no cost/benefit analysis was provided to add paid staff at each company. Mr. Zomolsky stated the cost would likely be \$30k per station. Mr. Jones and Mrs. McGrath indicated the 2023 budget is currently advertised and that adding this amount to an already tight budget, requiring a tax increase, would likely not obtain approval at this time. Mr. Gabel asked if the Township is talking with developers about the need for funding for the Fire Depts as their plans move through the approval process. Mr. Jones stated these facilities would likely have significant assessments which would be subject to the fire tax, generating additional funds for this purpose. Mr. Gabel was concerned about the future need of funding for capital items.
- c) Progress of obtaining Tax ID for Amity Township Emergency Services to address Workers Compensation issues for various companies – Mr. Bingaman indicated the Solicitor's office is working through that process on behalf of the Township.
- d) Update on ISO Rating – Mr. Zomolsky stated they have completed the process with the ISO representative. Mr. Gable stated they are in the processes of completing the same.
- e) Update on Drug & Alcohol Policy – this was previously discussed under letter "a" above.
- f) Professional Fundraiser for buildings/equipment – This item was deferred as Mr. Simser requested it be placed on the agenda and was unable to attend this meeting.
- g) Full-time Fire Marshal - This item was deferred as Mr. Simser requested it be placed on the agenda and was unable to attend this meeting.

Review of tagout/lockout process – Mr. Bingaman shared a physical form with the Fire Chiefs and referred to the Township website for an electronic form to be completed. This form is directly routed to the Codes Officer and able to be tracked for auditing purposes.

New Business:

- a) Mr. Zomolsky asked if Knox Box Keys were required for new construction. The general consensus was that it is up to each business owner.
- b) Dispatches & Recalls – Mr. Jones stated he listens to the 911 communications regularly and has heard quite a few instances where recalls are being made rather quickly and asked if the Fire Departments follow a protocol for this. The Chiefs responded in the affirmative. It was suggested this be reviewed to ensure a unified protocol and limit liability, having an officer verify the scene before any recall takes place.
- c) Mr. Jones also asked if the Fire Depts currently bill for services at an accident. Amity indicated they had a company handling this for them. Monarch is not currently doing so. Mr. Zomolsky indicated if the incident involves a resident there typically is no coverage due to the implemented fire tax. It was recommended we look to recoup as much as we can for these incidents.
- d) Union Township Coverage – a question was raised as to why Union Township is not currently providing any funding to Monarch since they are first due in a portion of the Township. Mrs. McGrath offered to attend a Union Twp meeting along with Chief Gable to discuss this issue and request their consideration of tax credits for resident volunteers.
- e) Mr. Bingaman stated he was working on developing the necessary forms for the tax credits offered to resident volunteers. These will be distributed to the Chiefs as soon as completed.
- f) Future Meeting Dates: 12/15.

Adjournment: Mike Foltz adjourned the meeting at 7:33 PM.

Notes for the meeting submitted by: Troy Bingaman