

Emergency Services Committee
January 18, 2024

Call to Order: The meeting began at 6:30PM at Township Building with the following Members in attendance: Michael Foltz, Chair, Ed Simser, Rodney Wagner, Michael Zomolsky, Kim McGrath, Terry Jones, and Barry Gross. Also in attendance was Troy Bingaman, Township Manager and Special Counsel John Muir from Kozloff Stoudt Attorneys.

Approval of Notes: Mr. Bingaman drafted notes for the June 15, 2023 meeting. Mr. Foltz asked if anyone had any concerns or changes. Hearing none, notes were approved.

Open Issues: Mr. Foltz turned the floor over to Mr. Muir of Kozloff Stoudt Attorneys to report out on his meetings with the leadership from both Amity Fire Company and Monarch Fire Company over the past 6 months, which served the three open issues from last meeting.

Mr. Muir provided an overview of his meetings with the Chiefs and Board members from each company and discussed his findings and recommendations. Based on these meetings Mr. Muir made the following recommendation to the committee:

- a) Reconsider the need to have two separate and distinct Fireman's Relief Associations. He discussed the benefits and drawback of having two different Associations and recommended combining them into one entity with shared interests. The majority of the committee supported the recommendation with no open objections to forming one Township Fireman's Relief Association. The committee recommends the Board of Supervisors consider creating a new Fireman's Relief Association that would serve both companies.
- b) Mr. Muir said he learned that despite both serving Amity Township and having a shared interest in the community, Monarch Fire Company and Amity Fire Company are not conducting routine training together. He recommended that the two fire companies train together as they each typically work together on the emergency scenes in the township. The committee agreed and both Chief's (Chief Wagner & Chief Zomolsky) openly agreed the companies have neglected joint training previously but promised to begin working together on routine training. Both companies train on the same night of the week so there is no reason this cannot easily be accomplished.
- c) Mr. Muir further recommended that since both fire companies serve the same community and routinely operate together that they standardize operating procedures & guidelines (SOP's & SOG's) . He shared resources that are available to assist the companies in completing this task and even offered his services. The committee agrees with this recommendation and strongly encourages both Chief's to continue their work on this venture.

New Business:

- a) The committee set action items as follows:
 1. Establish 2024 Goals & Objectives
 2. Review the 2021 Study completed by VFIS (Bill Jenaway) and continue addressing those recommendations.

3. Follow-up on recommendation to Amity Twp Board of Supervisors of creating a single Fireman's Relief Association to serve both companies.

b) Committee agreed to establish 2024 meeting dates for 2024 as follows:

1. March 21
2. May 16
3. No meetings to be held June, July or August
4. September 19
5. November 21

Adjournment: Mike Foltz adjourned the meeting at approx. 7:45 PM.

Notes for the meeting submitted by: Michael Foltz

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