

June 25, 2019
Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Chairman Robert Rohner called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were Richard Vollmer, Vice Chairman, Theresa Laino, Supervisor and Mary Ann Conza, Assistant Secretary. Absent: Donald Karpowich, Township Solicitor and Jon Tresslar, P.E., Township Engineer.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

BUSHKILL FIRE COMPANY BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Present on behalf of the Bushkill Fire Company Board of Trustees were Michele Kuna, Jonathan Dickison and James Owens. Michele Kuna reported that they are in need of additional funds for projected needs. Recently they purchased a tanker for \$336,000, 15 payments at \$36,000 per year. First payment will be due next year. Money from sale of the old tanker (\$30,000) will be banked to take care of the first payment. They have funds for the second year's payment due around 2022 when a lot of their debts go down, but then it will be time to purchase two engines for today's cost of \$550,000 each. Repairs are getting very expensive and they are nursing Engine 1. They are looking into a lease program and will come back with information on cost.

There is a balance of \$4,000 owed on the brush truck. Between the grant money received and the money from the Township, that will be paid off next week.

Mr. Dickison stated that there are less volunteers and the call volume is going up. Relief money is way down from previous years. Their turn-out gear has expiration dates on them (10 years). If there is a defect, it needs to be repaired. There is a health advisory on interior firefighters. They need two sets of gear. The firefighter needs to be decontaminated on the scene and the gear taken back to the station and washed. If there is another fire, a second set of gear is needed or the firefighter is out of service. Firefighters do not have double sets right now. There is a replacement schedule of 5 sets per year. That does not include a set for new firefighters.

They would like to increase their revenue stream. Their ordinance allows them to bill insurance companies for auto accidents, which is helpful. They plan on talking to Middle Smithfield Township about their donation, which comes from the cable tax. This amounts to approximately \$30,000 per year, but is not guaranteed each year.

Because the road drives are very dangerous, they may be discontinuing them. Collection of \$6,000 is not worth the risk.

The millage has not been raised for 25 plus years and an additional one-half mill should only increase the tax by \$30.

The Supervisors will make a decision after discussing all this information.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion made by Mr. Rohner and second by Ms. Laino to adjourn the meeting at 10:19 a.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Conza
Assistant Secretary