

Solon-Centerville Fire Department
Combined Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 16, 2007, 7:00 P.M.
Cedar Fire Department Meeting Room
8907 Railroad Ave., Cedar, MI 49621

MINUTES

Carl Williams opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Leonard Kelenske, Carl Williams, Joan Gauthier, George Rosinski, Robert Dezelski, Shirley Mikowski, Richard Pleva, Joe Czerniak, Trina Pleva, Jim Balesh, Al Rosinski, Steve Ward and Dan Petroskey.

Motion by Robert Dezelski and supported by Leonard Kelenske to approve agenda with the following three additions under New Business: Insurance, Ambulance charges and Township share.
Motion carried.

Minutes were reviewed from the September 26, 2006 meeting. Motion by Robert Dezelski and supported by Jim Balesh to approve the meeting minutes with one correction under New Business: The insurance may cover the damages less the \$100.00 deductible, instead of will cover the damages. Motion carried.

Joan Gauthier/Treasurer said that the Escrow Memorial Fund CD is up for renewal on February 24, 2007. Al Rosinski will ask the Firefighters if they would like to renew the CD and add additional funds from the General fund balance of \$3,126.05. Jay Homan's donation of \$200.00 will go into the Memorial Fund.

The following Treasurers report was reviewed:

Chase Bank Checking \$3,006.97, Chase Bank Fire Operating (General) \$3,410.04, Bank One Municipal Fire Operating (Gov't Oper) \$29,920.03, Bank One Municipal Savings (Gov't Oper) \$3,303.63, Chase CD \$10,000.00, Chase Bank Escrow-Memorial Fund \$3,126.05, Chase Bank Escrow-Memorial Fund CD \$8,000.00, Equipment Replacement \$5,090.91, CD's \$22,999.57, NWS MM/Checking-Savings \$5,494.23, Hanni Morenz (NWS) \$27,252.78, Hanni Morenz (5th/3rd) 1st CD \$58,271.42, 2nd CD \$25,000.00 for a total of \$204,875.63.

Motion by Shirley Mikowski and supported by George Rosinski to accept the Treasurers report as presented. Motion carried.

Correspondence:

There was none.

Unfinished Business:

The FEMA Grant is complete and all money has been received. The 2006 application for a tanker has been turned down.

Four radios have been purchased with the money from the National Park Grant.

Three radios have been purchased with the money from the Department of Natural Resources Grant. The 2006 application has been turned down.

Robert K. Lewis, Jr. stopped payment on his check of \$1,200.00 for the 1980 Ford Tanker Truck. The Board asked Al Rosinski/Fire Chief to contact Mr. Lewis to see if he will make another offer and to get the title back. Al Rosinski will also contact the guy from Prudenville who made an offer of \$400.00 and check with the junk yards to see if they might be interested.

The Board agreed to hire the Solon Township's Attorney/Dave Bieganowski for the Fire Department only when needed. The Attorney may charge \$1,000.00-\$2,000.00 to review the Fire Ordinance. Carl Williams will take the Ordinance to Joe Hubbell and see if he will review it instead.

The Fire Department Audit was completed in September. The audit revealed that we had one account with over \$100,000.00. Any amount over \$100,000.00 is not insured by FDIC.

Shirley Mikowski/Clerk will send another letter to Debra Schaub to remind her of the \$75.00 still due for the transport bill.

The report was sent to ISO (Insurance Services Organization) and they will determine our insurance rate in about 3 months.

The overhead doors have been repaired. An electric eye will not prevent the doors from coming down.

The approximate cost is \$400.00 per year to keep the members active and certified. This includes the cost of their annual physical that is required by law. It is required to have so many credits per year to maintain their license. Even though some are not available to sign up for stand-by, it is still beneficial to the department to keep them certified for back up. We currently have 7 new hires and there are enough members to sign up for the available stand-by shifts.

New Business:

There will be a 3.5% increase in the cost of insurance. The insurance does not cover oil spills, so the suggestion is to place the 2 oil tanks on a cement base and build a roof over them.

The 2006-2007 budgeted amounts for the ambulance millage are \$34,000.00 and the budgeted amount for the annual support is \$11,000.00. Leonard Kelenske asked if Centerville Township could get a decrease in their annual matching support. The annual support cannot be decreased this year and should be paid before the budget meeting.

The budget meeting for the joint fire board is scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at 7:00 P.M.

The Board discussed the Cedar Sewer Project and the cost that may incur if the Fire Department decides to hook up. Carl Williams will attend the next Sewer meeting scheduled for January 19, 2007 and bring back more information.

The rug contract will end in March.

The Board discussed at length if the Fire Department should purchase radios or pagers for the members. Al Rosinski will take a poll with the members and bring additional information to the budget meeting.

Leonard Kelenske shared his concerns that there are too many visitors and unnecessary traffic going through the fire department on a daily basis. The other concern is that the building is not being kept clean. George Rosinski suggested that the Supervisors inspect the building maintenance periodically.

The water has been tested and is safe to drink. The copy of the water test will be posted.

Al Rosinski requested that there be a daily time log sheet be put in place and signed in and out to keep track of who is making the ambulance runs.

Al Rosinski said that we have been paying \$1.50 per hour in stand-by fees to those in training. This needs to be looked into because this may not have been approved by the board. If this had been approved it would have been in 2005 and the minutes will need to be reviewed. This has been tabled until the minutes are reviewed.

North Flight suggested that we review our charges because they are too low, especially mileage. We are currently below the reimbursement rate or very close to it. They suggested that we charge for administering oxygen if we are not already. Blue Cross and most insurances (not Medicare) pay separately for that service. Steve Ward will do a comparison.

Comments:

Robert Dezelski recommended that the fire board maintain a quarterly meeting schedule.

The County MTA meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, 2007, at 7:30 P.M.

Motion by Robert Dezelski and supported by Joan Gauthier to adjourn meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Shirley Mikowski/ Clerk