

**YORK AREA UNITED FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

**MARCH 19, 2019
APPROVED**

The York Area United Fire and Rescue Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at YAUFRR Headquarters, 50 Commons Drive, York, PA 17402.

MEMBERS IN

ATTENDANCE: Austin Hunt, Chairman
George Dvoryak, Springettsbury Township
Cara Beth Zortman, Spring Garden Township
Dan Rooney, Spring Garden Township
Dave Brosend, Manchester Township
Lisa Wingert, Manchester Township

MEMBERS NOT

IN ATTENDANCE: Justin Tomevi, Springettsbury Township

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Dan Hoff, YAUFRR Chief
Steve Hovis, Solicitor
John Woods, Battalion Chief
Paul Grubb, YAUFVFR
Jean Abreght, Stenographer

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Opening Ceremony

1. Pledge of Allegiance

HUNT Chairman Hunt called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

HUNT Chairman Hunt announced that no Executive Sessions had been held since the last meeting; however, one was scheduled for immediately following adjournment this date.

3. COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

4. MANAGEMENT/ATTORNEY REPORTS

A. Steve Hovis, Solicitor

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis stated he had nothing to report.

B. Daniel Hoff, Fire Chief

HOFF Chief Hoff stated that he had one correction in his report. He mentioned the YAUFRR Volunteer meeting that was being held quarterly is due to be held in April. In addition, he planned to be at the PELRAD conference in State College for the next three days. He noted mention in the report that staff is looking to post a hands-on training for the Commission members to familiarize them with what YAUFRR does.

HUNT Chairman Hunt indicated he was very interested sometime in an afternoon when it's a little warmer.

HOFF Chief Hoff asked the Commissioners to let him know of their interest and what suits the majority and they will get it scheduled.

HUNT Chairman Hunt complimented Chief Hoff and his staff for the 62-page Annual Report. He noted a huge amount of information, well written and well documented. He asked who received copies.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that it had been sent to all the Township Managers, and it's up on the website. He wanted to get Commissioner comment as well as feedback from the Township Managers before putting it out in an email blast to other townships in the county.

A lengthy discussion was held on a number of subjects and is summarized:

- Benchmarks – Summary report indicating trends of functional areas, requests for service, fire extinguishers, call volume, turnout times.
- County Control/911 – Issues with recording of dispatch times to be addressed and corrected.
- Firefighter Grim – Active employee on Medical Leave for back surgery. He will retire in October.
- Mutual Aid Given/Mutual Aid Received – To be addressed more in detail.
- Narcan – 12 incidences where Firefighters administered Narcan.
- Manchester Ambulance Revenue – Outstanding invoicing \$11,000; payments continue.
- Springettsbury EMS – Payments continue to be received. Both shown as Accounts Receivable.

WINGERT Ms. Wingert questioned whether Commissioners needed to provide Financial Statements if submitted to the municipality.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis indicated that a copy is to be provided both to the YAUFRR office as well as the municipality for audit purposes.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak stated that he would like to do a more thorough review of the Mutual Aid Given/Mutual Aid Received. He wondered whether the ratios of 61/8; 56/7 and 8/1 revealed a fair perspective.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that some of the municipalities they go into an area with a much lower call volume than YAUFRR as well as one with fewer resources. YAUFRR's units won't call for Mutual Aid unless there is a major incident. He added that there is no model for how much or how friendly YAUFRR should be. He stated that in the fire service they largely operate on Mutual Aid and in many cases, it is automatic aid because they recognize they need four engines and two ladder trucks, whatever the case is. YAUFRR will go because they're the next closest service. It would be a sticky situation to turn around and tell a company they're using YAUFRR too much and asking for contributions. They would remove YAUFRR from their response list and move to the next closest unit to come.

HUNT Chairman Hunt asked what the negative downside would be from a numbers standpoint.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that two negatives come from that. One, the experience that the YAUFRR men get on fire incidences as they don't see a lot of fires. Many times the experience they get with actual fire suppression is an aid call, and more importantly from a philosophical standpoint comes from our Mission Statement. It states that we're going to basically be a good neighbor and support the actions of the county fire service. It must be included.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak questioned whether YAUFRR could continue to offer the service but with a contract to the municipalities so there is a fee, a blanket amount. He was not sure how it would be structured, but at the end of the day, the taxpayers in Springettsbury, Spring Garden and Manchester Township aren't subsidizing.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that there are municipalities that YAUFRR gives much more than is received. There are other ones where it is pretty even. Chief Hoff wasn't sure how that would be received, but he thought that the others would just pass by and go to the next company.

HUNT Chairman Hunt commented that from the very beginning of YAUFRR, he was familiar with Spring Garden and how close Grantley is to the York Township coverage area. Spring Garden was a huge exporter to York Township and, in fact, by doing so they were actually covering up a need that York Township had in

career fire coverage for their area. However, costs are the same whether the Firefighters are sitting or fighting a fire except for the incident costs. There is some advantage with the training. He noted it is a thorny issue and hard to pinpoint. It is a minimal cost to us other than those townships and boroughs are not supporting the underlying structure, the fixed costs, but those fixed costs are the same with or without the incidents.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak responded that he agreed and that he didn't know the answer. He was just concerned from the standpoint of knowing the price for the new pumpers and whether York Township should be included in the cost as YAUFRR is using it in their municipality.

HUNT Chairman Hunt noted that represents the fixed costs.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak stated that they are replaced every so often so it's not a limited shelf life that has to be paid every so many years.

HOFF Chief Hoff stated that those are costs YAUFRR would have regardless of whether or not they are coming.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak noted that he would not be opposed to taking a look at the matter more in depth.

HOFF Chief Hoff stated that the calls for aid to other municipalities had taken a bit of a downturn in the last several years. Some of it has to do with the improvements that other departments have made internally, some with the fact that they don't want YAUFRR men putting out their fires.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak noted that he thought there is a state requirement that a municipality is required to provide fire protection services to its residents.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis stated that he was correct, provided to its residents. However, it does require Mutual Aid to the extent that Springettsbury Township, Spring Garden Township, Manchester are obligated to insure that there is fire coverage within their municipalities, and they've done that by way of YAUFRR. Hellam Borough has done that by insuring that volunteer fire company is still operational within that borough.

ROONEY Mr. Rooney indicated that there could be a threshold or ratio of aid procedure is given up to a certain amount that gets to an imbalance or cycle.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that would be where he would look and say it is becoming a problem if YAUFRR is missing incidents within its service area because of help being provided to another municipality.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis stated that if it becomes a pattern that appears that YAUFRR is supporting or providing the fire coverage for a municipality, it is incumbent upon the Commission to approach the resident officials of that municipality to bring to their attention that their volunteer fire company isn't getting out of the fire house on a regular basis. There could be a way that YAUFRR could assist them through a contracted service, or perhaps they would consider joining YAUFRR.

HOFF Chief Hoff noted that the conversation had already been had with the York Township Manager and with the fire company representatives with Dover and West Manchester Township.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak noted the Manchester Borough statistic of 61/8.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that the reason Manchester Borough Fire Company does not come to assist YAUFRR is because they don't want to follow our rules on a fire scene and they are a hazard to people.

HUNT Chairman Hunt questioned how easy it would be for him to create some longer-term trends of the numbers.

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated they can set their time parameters for two months, three months, a year or two years.

HUNT Chairman Hunt noted that it would be helpful for Mr. Dvoryak and him if the numbers on pages 50, 51, 52, 53 of the Annual Report, if you could extend that back five or 10 years. He noted just the numbers as to whether they are trending up, trending down or holding the same in a spreadsheet.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A. Payable Listing as of February 28, 2019

MR. DVORYAK MOVED TO APPROVE THE PAYABLE LISTING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019. MS. ZORTMAN WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. BIDS, PROPOSALS & CONTRACTS

There were none for action.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

There were no Commissioner communications.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Volunteer Committee

HUNT Chairman Hunt reported he had attended a very nice ambulance certification.

GRUBB Mr. Grubb responded that they are still in the formative phase; however, they had appointed an elected board of officers. They are doing some limited transport for York Hospital on an as-available basis. Things are progressing, and the board realizes that any time there is a regionalization effort there are a lot of moving parts to get in sync. They take a look at YAUFRR and how that was done and whether they could do the same.

HUNT Chairman Hunt echoed his previous comments that YAUFRR wishes them the best of luck and will provide any support they request.

GRUBB Mr. Grubb indicated he would pass that along.

9. RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

There were none for action.

10. ACTION ON MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes: February 19, 2019 – Fire Commission Minutes

MR. BROSEND MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19, 2019. MS. ZORTMAN WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion – Sealed bid results/ advertising options

HOFF Chief Hoff reported they had received several bids for the apparatus for sale. Bids were received from three companies, two of which bid on multiple pieces of apparatus. Strinestown and Conewago Townships sent three bids for three pieces with a top bid for each piece was \$10,500, which was \$74,000 less than can be accepted for one engine, \$10,000 less for another and \$40,000 less. A bid was received from a dealer in New England of \$5,000 for two trucks. East Prospect

bid \$50,000 for the 2006, but \$85,000 and \$100,000 was expected for that one. They also bid \$35,000 on the 2003, still less than what was hoped for by about \$15,000.

HUNT Chairman Hunt asked whether any market research had been done for the expected values.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that he had, and based on the bids the staff recommended the bids be rejected. They will be listed with a broker, Fenton Fire. They will take 10 percent if they sell it, but they also provide the ability to advertise them on Municibid.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis cautioned that in Pennsylvania law there is a limit on how things can be sold. It has to be a public advertising bid. He did not know how the broker can ultimately sell it, but Municibid does comply with that. He suggested that they go through the process twice, and if no acceptable bid is received then do something with a broker. He suggested to go through Municibid first and see if there are acceptable bids. If not, then approach the broker to sell.

BROSEND Mr. Brosend questioned whether they put a reserve on the bidding.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded that they put a reserve on Municibid, and they will draft letters to the three bidders and advise them the status.

HUNT Chairman Hunt questioned whether there would be any financial advantage or otherwise to donating the apparatus to a smaller volunteer company.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis responded that there would be some tax exemption, but he wasn't sure how much advantage there would be.

HOFF Chief Hoff stated that they had discussed donating the oldest piece, the '95. Their expectation would be somewhere between \$5,000 and \$10,000 for that based on age. It's just not a very user-friendly piece of apparatus for our purposes. It was decided if no good bids were received, and we were aware of a down-and-out-fire company somewhere, they would talk to the board about donating it to them. The money invested in the other apparatus would not be donated.

HOVIS Solicitor Hovis stated he would like to have a formal motion to reject all the bids that were received and authorize the staff to proceed with the Municibid sale.

MR. DVORYAK MOVED TO REJECT ALL THE BIDS THAT WERE RECEIVED AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE MUNICIBID SALE. MS. ZORTMAN WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

12. NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

13. ADJOURNMENT

HUNT Chairman Hunt reminded the Commissioners of the Executive Session to be held immediately following adjournment. He adjourned the meeting at

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file at YAUFRR Headquarters

Dan Rooney
Secretary

ja