

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

**OCTOBER 18, 2011  
APPROVED**

The York Area United Fire and Rescue Commission held a Regular meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the Springettsbury Township Offices, 1501 Mt. Zion Road, York, PA.

**MEMBERS IN**

**ATTENDANCE:** Austin Hunt, Vice Chairman  
Don Bishop  
John Fullmer  
Tom Warman  
Mike Bowman

**MEMBERS NOT**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Bill Schenck, Chairman

**ALSO IN**

**ATTENDANCE:** John Holman, Springettsbury Township Manager  
Steve Hovis, Solicitor  
Bob McCoy, YAUFRC Chief  
Sandy Ratcliff, YAUFRC  
Lisa Einsig, YAUFRC  
Jay VanPelt, YAUFRC  
Tom Stees, YAVFC  
Don Eckert, YAUVFC  
Jean Abrecht, Stenographer

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**A. Opening Ceremony**

1. Pledge of Allegiance

**HUNT** Vice Chairman Austin Hunt called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS**

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt announced there had been no Executive Sessions since the last meeting and none were planned for 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. Robert McCoy, Fire Chief

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy reported that he had followed up with Vijay Kapoor and indicated that he expected to have an initial report by the end of October; definitely before the first holiday. Chief McCoy introduced Lisa Einsig as the new Administrative Assistant, who officially began her employment with YAUFRR on Monday, October 24, 2011. She had been working as a temporary employee since February and he had found her to be an outstanding employee. He added that he has a back up for Lisa lined up.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt congratulated Chief McCoy on a great job in the Pride Program.

**VANPELT** Battalion Chief Jay VanPelt noted that they had walked many miles.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt questioned whether the residents actually understand YAUFRR and why it is different from the fire department 10 years ago.

**VANPELT** Battalion Chief VanPelt responded that they explain it, but he wasn't sure whether they understand it 100%.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt complimented Chief McCoy and the department for getting out there because it is so very important.

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy noted that there had been a fire in Haines Acres and they immediately saturated the neighborhood again going from house to house in a two to three-block radius to remind everyone about the Pride Program.

**5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

A. Payable Listing as of September 30, 2011

**MR. FULLMER MOVED TO PROCEED WITH PAYMENT OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 LISTING. MR. WARMAN WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**6. BIDS, PROPOSALS AND CONTRACTS**

There were none for action.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

There were no comments from Commissioners.

**8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Volunteer Committee**

**ECKERT** Mr. Eckert reported that, as far as volunteers, they had recently received applications for new members, some interested in firefighting, some interested in fire police, and some EMT's. He attributed the interest to word-of-mouth. They are in the midst of preparing a fund-raising letter for 2012 and hoped for as good a response as last year. He indicated that people are aware of terrorism and things happening within local communities, and it makes an impact on people.

**B. Building Committee**

**ECKERT** Mr. Eckert reported that he and the proposed buyer signed an agreement and are in the process of the due diligence for the property at 3013 East Market Street. In addition, a price was agreed upon with the seller of the property to purchase, and Mr. Eckert is in the process of having an agreement prepared. It is imperative that an agreement is solidified in order to have property in place for the future of YAUFRR.

**9. RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS**

There were none for action.

**10. ACTION ON MINUTES**

A. Approval of Minutes: September 20, 2011 – Fire Commission Meeting

**MR. WARMAN MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2011 FIRE COMMISSION MEETING. MR. BISHOP WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**11. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Approval – Adjustment to 2012 YAUFRR Budget Submission (Health)

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy reported that on September 28<sup>th</sup> he attended the ISC Quarterly Meeting. YAUFRR was provided actual health insurance costs for 2012, which was a difference of \$10,000. He had discussed this with the chairman during that meeting, who recommended it be brought forward to the Commission in order to include it in the 2012 budget. He requested that the budget be adjusted to reflect

the actual cost of health care, which is \$712,584. It made a difference of \$5,500 and \$4,500 to the townships.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt questioned Solicitor Hovis as to whether the Commission needed to approve the amended budget for distribution to the townships.

**HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis responded that it should be approved and recommended that Chief McCoy send a memo or letter to the municipalities identifying the change and revising the budget.

**MR. BISHOP MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADJUSTED 2012 BUDGET FOR YAUFRR.  
MR. FULLMER WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy added for information that they budgeted 5% for health care, and the actual costs came in at 6.1%.

## **12. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Discussion – 2011 MMO**

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy reported that a notice had been received that a surplus will be received from the state for the MMO. He had discussed the matter with Conrad Siegel, the Actuary, regarding an estimate of what each township will receive based on the three pension plans. Springettsbury had paid \$138,000, which YAUFRR sent to Fulton Bank for the unfunded liability. After all the pension obligations are paid, YAUFRR has \$76,955.78 left. Conrad Siegel indicated that the money must be used in 2011 for pensions. The obvious choice left is to reimburse the money to the unfunded liability.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt asked why it wouldn't be distributed evenly amongst the three funds.

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy responded that, in discussing it with Tom Zimmerman of Conrad Siegel, there are two defined contribution plans. Springettsbury Township is responsible for the unfunded liability. This money must be used for the pensions and any pension debt.

**WARMAN** Mr. Warman asked whether Spring Garden does not have a pension obligation.

**RATCLIFFE** Ms. Ratcliffe answered that Spring Garden received their own amount of money. This money was strictly for YAUFRR.

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy stated that each township also had a surplus. The money came in for the three pension plans so add all the revenues, and all of the obligations were paid, and there is still \$76,000 left. Springettsbury can be reimbursed. He had looked at it several different ways and could not come up with any other solution.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt commented that the defined contribution can't be over-contributed because it's a defined contribution.

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy added that it is a percentage for the employee.

**RATCLIFFE** Ms. Ratcliffe added that it would then get into covering 2012 pensions.

**FULLMER** Mr. Fullmer noted that Spring Garden township does have unfunded liability for the police benefit plan. Everything else is defined contribution plan. This is a one-time deal. With respect to YAUFRR, they are looking at this as a combined plan. He was struggling with, as a YAUFRR Commissioner and not as a Spring Garden Commissioner, taking that surplus and putting it all back in Springettsbury's unfunded liability, from an accounting standpoint does not make sense.

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy responded that first the actual excess would be split between the two. Then the only thing left after everything's paid is the fact that Springettsbury paid their unfunded liability and YAUFRR is allowed to reimburse them for that.

**WARMAN** Mr. Warman asked Solicitor Hovis for his legal view on the subject.

**HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis responded that if YAUFRR didn't have this \$76,000 excess that has proceeded forward, at some point in time Springettsbury will be obligated to fund their unfunded liability out of their general fund. However, YAUFRR now has this \$76,000 excess which is really derived from YAUFRR that goes to Springettsbury that reduces their general fund outlays to their obligation. One could say that it's 55% Springettsbury's and 45% Spring Garden and at some point in time should Springettsbury reimburse Spring Garden for their 45% by some internal accounting, by way of an offset contribution in the future or a cash outlay next year so that Spring Garden can contribute to their pension fund, that would be one way to handle it.

**WARMAN** Mr. Warman reminded the board that YAUFRR receives a benefit from Springettsbury in the form of \$1.00 rent for the property, which is a good cost savings to YAUFRR. He indicated he did not have a problem with refunding the money to Springettsbury. He asked Solicitor Hovis if there could be any violation of YAUFRR agreements.

**HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis responded that he did not think there would be any violations. However, the board should approve any action so that it is reflected how it will be applied. He added that whatever is done must be fair for both municipalities and YAUFRR.

**RATCLIFFE** Ms. Ratcliffe stated that there was one more step to that. When the two townships are billed through the whole year, part of the contributions that were paid included money to pay YAUFRR's share of the expenses that weren't covered by the MMO. So at the end of the year YAUFRR will have some more money going into that fund balance that would have paid pension costs and that money will benefit both municipalities 45/55 split.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt understood that the line item was split in the budget.

**RATCLIFFE** Ms. Ratcliffe indicated that was money that was already in the fund balance. They will finish off 2011 and close out the books and have them audited, and there will be more money going into the fund because YAUFRR didn't have those direct costs.

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy added that within YAUFRR's Admin plan, an employee must be in three years. The MMO money received was enough to cover all three plans and still have an excess so there will be some excess money at the end of the year that will also go into the plan.

**FULLMER** Mr. Fullmer noted that Springettsbury's unfunded liability would depend on what happened in the stock market. It could go up even if they're paying down on it. He suggested if a decision is not necessary as of this date, he would like to at least get some response back from Spring Garden Township's Manager Maust to see his spin on this and if he has had any discussion with Mr. Holman or not. Mr. Fullmer wanted to make sure that it is handled properly. Legally he thought the only potential was to refund it towards the liability. However, there may be some underlying calculation between the two townships to split it 55/45%. He would like to continue the discussion until the November meeting for a final approval.

**MCCOY** Chief McCoy noted that he will get the two managers together for further discussion.

**RATCLIFFE** Ms. Ratcliffe noted that YAUFRR would not have received the money to start with but the unfunded liability shows up in the MMO because it's part of the retirement plan. And because that is part of the pension costs, that was the reason YAUFRR got the money.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt noted that a very good argument could be made that it goes towards the unfunded liability. If not, there should be some apportionment across all employees regardless of where it came from.

**RATCLIFFE** Ms. Ratcliffe stated that nothing would be done with any of the money until the last week of December because the Admin Plan and the non-union plan were defined contribution plans. Those were estimates for this fourth quarter, so the actual costs wouldn't be used and the refund was actually \$76,555.17, which had to be done in the fourth quarter.

**HUNT** Mr. Hunt noted that it should be brought up for action before the end of the year and hopefully in November.

**WARMAN** Mr. Warman noted that more data is needed and to carry it as Old Business for November.

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

**HUNT** Vice Chairman Hunt adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Fullmer  
Secretary

ja