

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

**NOVEMBER 17, 2009
APPROVED**

The York Area United Fire and Rescue Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the Springettsbury Township offices located at 1501 Mt. Zion Road, York, PA.

MEMBERS IN

ATTENDANCE: Austin Hunt, Vice Chairman
Don Bishop, Springettsbury Commission Member
John Fullmer, Spring Garden Commission Member
Tom Warman, Spring Garden Commission Member
George Dvoryak, Springettsbury Commission Alternate

MEMBERS NOT

IN ATTENDANCE: Bill Schenck, Chairman

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Bob McCoy, Chief YAUFRR
Brooke Say, Solicitor
Sandra Ratcliffe, Finance Officer/Assistant Treasurer
Dan Hoff, Battalion Chief
Don Eckert, YAUFRR Volunteers
Bob Gundlach, Grantley
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 that there had been no Executive Sessions since the last meeting, and none were scheduled for this date.

3. COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

4. MANAGEMENT/ATTORNEY REPORTS

A. Steve Hovis, Solicitor

SAY Solicitor Brooke Say stated Solicitor Hovis was unable to be present and that she had no report.

B. Robert McCoy, Fire Chief – YAUFRR

MCCOY Chief McCoy had provided his monthly report and stated that he had received word from Solicitor Hovis along with a letter from the Auditor General’s office with regard to the Act 205 form. Solicitor Hovis had discussed YAUFRR’s situation with them, and they provided the form for submittal by March, 2010. That is for 2010 funding for Ms. Bayman, Mr. Hoff and himself. He announced that Dan Hoff had been appointed Battalion Chief, formerly Captain Hoff from Springettsbury Township. A swearing in ceremony will be held during the December meeting.

HUNT Mr. Hunt asked why the MOU with the prison only listed one station.

MCCOY Chief McCoy responded that it listed Station 891 because it is in the first response area. The language throughout the rest of the MOU dealt with York Area United Fire and Rescue.

WARMAN Mr. Warman asked whether that was something that had to be done annually.

MCCOY Chief McCoy responded that was done annually and that it was not uncommon for a facility of that nature. However, he noted that this was the first one that he had done. Chief McCoy added that he would be working with the IT people to separate the EMS from the fire calls.

HUNT Mr. Hunt asked whether Chief McCoy was working on articles placed in the township newsletters recruiting volunteers for fire, EMS and fire police. He noted that in Spring Garden they had yard signs printed that just indicated, “volunteers wanted, call so and so.” He asked Chief McCoy whether he had investigated that or whether he saw any value in doing that. He thought that it had received relatively good response.

MCCOY Chief McCoy responded that they had discussed getting signs made that the stations could post. He indicated that first thing he wanted was to have a newspaper article, and if the money was available he would do a volunteer recruitment and retention exercise. There had been newsletters and they had received two calls. He commented that he would try a bigger target area.

HUNT Mr. Hunt recalled that, during his time on the board in Spring Garden, the Chief had spent \$500 and got 100 signs. They handed them out and people had them in their front yards and in front of the station houses. There had been 50 or 60 responses that resulted in 20 interested people. He asked for the name of the DCED contact.

MCCOY Chief McCoy responded that it is Rob Brady.

HUNT Mr. Hunt asked what position Teri Gilfillan filled.

MCCOY Chief McCoy responded that she is Grants Coordinator for Springettsbury Township.

HUNT Mr. Hunt asked about the Pride Program. He commented that previously it was unclear how much money would be received. He asked whether the full \$96,000 had been received.

MCCOY Chief McCoy responded that YAUFRR was approved for \$96,000. The actual funding is a one-year opportunity. The program objectives can go for five years, and any amount of that \$96,000 can be drawn down within the first year of the five-year program. They had decided to prepare the literature and after the first of the year do an initial draw down. They are looking at the regular smoke alarms, batteries, etc. They will work on getting all the supplies needed, including the literature.

HUNT Mr. Hunt asked whether they will visit every residence within five years.

MCCOY Chief McCoy responded that they had received a list from both townships of the actual residential addresses. They will begin by dividing the neighborhoods up to visit within the five-year plan.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A. Payable Listing as of October 31, 2009

**MR. WARMAN MOVED ACCEPT THE PAYABLE LIST AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2009.
MR. BISHOP WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

HUNT Mr. Hunt asked Ms. Ratcliffe to provide a brief explanation of the MUNIS report.

RATCLIFFE Ms. Ratcliffe indicated that it is a year-to-date budget report which provides the original budget for the year and any adjustments that were made to the original budget. There was a grant that was added to revenue and expenses, and it was shown in the revised budget.

HUNT Mr. Hunt asked why the interest income would show as a negative.

RATCLIFFE Ms. Ratcliffe noted that when revenues and expenses are combined, revenues are shown with a negative number to show as a credit and it will show a minus sign.

HUNT Mr. Hunt responded that he understood and thanked her.

6. BIDS, PROPOSALS & CONTRACTS

There were none for discussion.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

There were no Commissioner communications.

8. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Budget Subcommittee

FULLMER Mr. Fullmer reported that there were some changes requested at the last meeting. Those were done in a very timely manner and sent out to everyone including the townships. He reported that they had been incorporated into Spring Garden Township's budget discussions.

RATCLIFFE Ms. Ratcliffe added that they had been incorporated into Springettsbury's budget discussions as well.

B. Negotiation Subcommittee

There was nothing to report.

C. Volunteer Subcommittee

ECKERT Mr. Eckert stated that they had nothing new to report.

HUNT Mr. Hunt noted that he had observed the fire police in action at an accident scene but that there was no YAUFRR identification.

ECKERT Mr. Eckert responded that nothing had been sewn on their vests mainly to keep them waterproofed. There is an 89 designation on the back.

D. Building Committee

WARMAN Mr. Warman reported that he and Mr. Hunt had met concerning building issues.

HUNT Mr. Hunt stated that they had a fruitful meeting, and he had a subsequent discussion with Solicitor Hovis. They continue to identify potential problems.

WARMAN Mr. Warman added that they are attempting to limit the list so that it is understandable as there are many challenges.

E. EMS Committee

MCCOY Chief McCoy reported that he had met with the Business Manager of the Teamsters as Springettsbury EMS and Grantley EMS have the same Business Manager. They had discussed some ideas for the future and he hoped to have additional information for the December meeting.

9. RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

There were none for action.

10. ACTION ON MINUTES

- A. Approval of Minutes: September 15, 2009 Special Joint Budget Meeting**
- B. Approval of Minutes: October 20, 2009 Commission Meeting**

MR. FULLMER MOVED TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2009 SPECIAL JOINT BUDGET MEETING AND OCTOBER 20, 2009 COMMISSION MEETING AS SUBMITTED. MR. WARMAN WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Pierce Pumper Update

MCCOY Chief McCoy reported that he and Firefighter Beaver traveled to Appleton, Wisconsin. They were able to approve both Pierce plans and see their assembly line. The operation is very impressive. They met with the sales representative and went through the plans. There were 12 minor changes made; no money changed hands. They are projecting the manufacture of the pumpers to start in January and potentially be finished by March 19, 2010. They will make one more trip on Pierce for the final inspection. They will assemble a team for a final inspection trip before taking delivery. Pierce will deliver the pumpers.

B. Volunteer Reimbursement

MCCOY Chief McCoy stated that this subject of volunteer reimbursement had been in process for several months. It was brought back to the Commission, and Mr. Fullmer had requested Ms. Ratcliffe to provide an audit based on the invoices. An additional meeting was held with Don Eckert. Chief McCoy asked Ms. Ratcliffe for the results of her audit.

RATCLIFFE Ms. Ratcliffe reported that she had reviewed the expenses submitted for reimbursement and determined that the list was accurate. She reviewed all the expenses that YAUFR had paid since it began which concerned the volunteers at Stations 1 and 3. Her original audit included the fuel because volunteers are supposed to pay for fuel, but then the reimbursement for that was never actually done in the past. That would be an area for determination of whether it should be included in the volunteers or be excluded from the list. She reported that YAUFR had accounted for the full amount that was received from Springettsbury. They more than used that money for those two stations for those expenses. There is no extra money to be turned back over to them.

WARMAN Mr. Warman asked Mr. Eckert whether he had a chance to review that as well.

ECKERT Mr. Eckert responded that he had and that nothing had changed from the initial submittal. He stated that Ms. Ratcliffe confirmed everything they had submitted, but the fact remained that there is not enough money transferred to handle the cost

of operation and nothing had changed where they are as a volunteer company and the lack of paying up to the agreement they had from the 2008 budget with the township. He indicated his next step will be to the Board of Supervisors.

WARMAN Mr. Warman confirmed that YAUFRR's responsibility was clear.

ECKERT Mr. Eckert explained that he had brought the issue to YAUFRR based on the offer of Chief McCoy to try to get the volunteers some money and to inform the Commission what had taken place. There was an agreement in the 2008 budget, which was the same as five years before, but the rules were changed mid-stream. Mr. Eckert took exception to that and intended to go back to the Supervisors because the volunteers are out that money. When the ownership of the apparatus was turned over to YAUFRR in April, they had already spent \$43,000 in repair money at that time. That's all part of the reimbursement that was submitted. Nothing was ever said that the reimbursement wasn't going to happen as it had in the past. He intended to pursue resolution.

FULLMER Mr. Fullmer asked Ms. Ratcliffe whether there was any additional YAUFRR obligation to the volunteers based on her analysis.

RATCLIFFE Ms. Ratcliffe responded that there was none. What YAUFRR received was paid to the volunteers. YAUFRR started as soon as possible getting the invoices paid. The one remaining item related to taking the fuel out of the equation, which is about \$20,000 and \$8,000 left over the initial amount received.

FULLMER Mr. Fullmer asked whether fuel had been included in the past.

RATCLIFFE Ms. Ratcliffe responded that it had been included as an expense to the volunteers but was never actually given to them to pay the township for it.

ECKERT Mr. Eckert indicated that going forward with YAUFRR and Chief McCoy and his budget, the volunteers have had no problem at all working out exactly who pays for what. The issues all happened in 2008. As of 2009 they had discussed budgetary issues and there had been no problems.

FULLMER Mr. Fullmer asked Mr. Eckert whether the Commission owed any additional money from his standpoint.

ECKERT Mr. Eckert responded that no additional money was owed from YAUFRR. It had been a gracious offer on the part of Chief McCoy in an attempt to get some reimbursement. They had reviewed the numbers and there was not sufficient enough money transferred to cover the expenses of running the fire service.

WARMAN Mr. Warman commented that what the volunteers do is very important and he wanted to make sure that the volunteers and the Commission are not at odds.

ECKERT Mr. Eckert understood and stated that the volunteers have no problem with the Fire Commission. He had participated in a number of meetings about this issue and at the end of 2009, they're still talking about it.

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HUNT Mr. Hunt thanked Ms. Ratcliffe for her audit.

12. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business for discussion.

13. ADJOURNMENT

HUNT Vice Chairman Hunt adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Fullmer

Secretary

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