

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

**JULY 20 2021
APPROVED**

The York Area United Fire and Rescue Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS IN

ATTENDANCE: Austin Hunt, Chairman
Dan Rooney, Vice Chairman, Spring Garden Township
Charles Wurster, Secretary, Springettsbury Township
Tom Gwilt, Spring Garden Township
Don Bishop, Springettsbury Township (Alternate)
Deb McCune, Manchester Township (Alternate)

NOT PRESENT: George Dvoryak, Springettsbury Township
Lisa Wingert, Manchester Township
John Inch, Manchester Township

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Daniel Hoff, YAUFR Chief
Steve Hovis, Solicitor
Brett Graham, Battalion Chief
Lisa Einsig, YAUFR
Sue Sipe, Stenographer

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Opening Ceremony

1. Pledge of Allegiance

HUNT Chairman Hunt called the Regular Meeting to order. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

HUNT Chairman Hunt announced an Executive Session will be held following the meeting for an update on personnel issues.

3. COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS

There were no citizen comments.

4. MANAGEMENT/ATTORNEY REPORTS

A. Solicitor Hovis

HOVIS Attorney Hovis announced on July 1, 2021 Governor Wolf signed into law Act 65 which is an amendment to the Sunshine Law to become effective at the end of

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August. The amendment ensures that any official action items to be deliberated by the Board must be on the agenda. It provides four exceptions under which non-agenda items can be included:

- (1) Someone from the audience brings up an issue to be voted on that has a diminimus financial impact.
- (2) If the item has come up 24 hours prior to the meeting it can be voted upon if it has a diminimus financial impact.
- (3) An emergency situation.
- (4) Formally must make a motion to amend the agenda which is approved by the Board. Once approved and the agenda is amended it can be voted upon. The agenda would then have to be reposted within 24 hours of the meeting and must be on the website.

B. Daniel Hoff, Fire Chief

HOFF Chief Hoff announced Truck 89-2 was returned to service following the repair of a blown head gasket. He was unsure of what the financial cost would be as yet.

He noted Chief Graham's vehicle should be back from repairs next week.

Chief Hoff indicated he has been in communication with a vendor from North Carolina who works with several South American fire departments in regards to the sale of the American LaFrance ladder truck. He noted they intend to provide an offer in writing this week.

Chief Hoff noted as referenced in his report, he attended a meeting of the Fire Commission for Hanover Area Fire and Rescue upon invitation from Jan Cromer, retired chief and commission member. He provided a presentation to the Commission regarding operations and successes at YAUFR.

WURSTER Mr. Wurster inquired about the train derailment in Goldsboro.

HOFF Chief Hoff stated actions of personnel involved were minimal and there was no hazmat leakage from any of the cars. He noted the incident quickly became a scene security and recovery issue. He indicated YAUFR was called because of their heavy rescue.

HOFF Chief Hoff reported in regards to the hotel collapse in Florida, Rich Godfrey a Manchester fire fighter just returned after spending two weeks as a member of PA Task Force One on site. Chief Hoff stated they are proud of Firefighter Godfrey's service to assist with the rescue efforts.

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- HUNT** Chairman Hunt indicated he had a question in regards to Chief Hoff's report. Item #4 – Volunteers – he noted Chief Hoff mentioned extremely low attendance. He asked if that is a major concern.
- HOFF** Chief Hoff indicated he had concerns about the numbers in general. Although there is low attendance, he noted they are still able to hold meetings and have productive discussions. He attributed low attendance to summer activities.
- HUNT** Chairman Hunt asked about Firefighter Keough and Firefighter Serikstad as to when they will be recognized for their commendation.
- HOFF** Chief Hoff stated he is intending to have a recognition ceremony in September. He noted there are three new employees to be formally sworn in, as well as several other commendations. He indicated there is no impediment to their employment status, since the swearing in is generally ceremonial. He indicated that Ms. Noel is a notary and has taken care of their employment status.
- HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis stated as long as the hiring has been authorized at a public meeting and the new hire has passed all the tests they would be authorized to start.
- HUNT** Chairman Hunt asked Chief Hoff about the billing for incidents from the PA Fire Recovery Services.
- HOFF** Chief Hoff indicated upon reviewing revenues he noted there were several notations on the spreadsheet for ICR, (insurance company refused). The president of PA Fire Recovery indicated that increasingly they are experiencing insurance companies refusing to pay if there is not a municipal ordinance in place to authorize incident billing.
- HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis explained the formal agreement was approved, however, this commission does not adopt ordinances, they adopt resolutions and a resolution in the sight of the law is the authorization to do something which is the approval or agreement.
- HUNT** Chairman Hunt indicated from Chief Hoff's report Manchester does have the ordinance authorizing it and Chief Hoff would like to urge Springettsbury and Spring Garden to adopt a similar ordinance.
- HOFF** Chief Hoff indicated he will be meeting with the Manchester Township manager and will obtain a copy of the ordinance.
- HOVIS** Solicitor Hovis asked for a copy of the ordinance and indicated he will investigate the matter.

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HUNT Chairman Hunt referred to the discussion held at the June meeting in regards to issues with County Control 911. He noted at the request of the Board, Chief Hoff drafted a letter with input from Mr. Wurster, signed under Chairman Hunt's signature. A copy was included in the packet. Feedback was received from the county commissioners indicated they are working on it.

HUNT Chairman Hunt noted in regards to the accreditation, he has asked Chief Hoff and the Strategic Planning Committee to make a presentation at the August meeting to provide an update from the Citizen Strategic Planning Committee with plans for a similar presentation at the September Joint Township meeting.

HUNT Chairman Hunt indicated he noticed response times for calls have decreased except for Station 89-5 which trended upward.

HOFF Chief Hoff responded the reason may be heavy traffic especially on I-83. He noted there are issues with calls for incidents on I-83 since emergency vehicles must travel in the opposite direction in order to access a ramp proceeding in the direction to get to the incident. While that is occurring, traffic is already backed up at the site. Construction is another problem.

HUNT Chairman Hunt asked what the current update is on the Market Street bridge replacement.

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated he did not know the exact date but they are planning for completion in October.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A. Payable Listing as of June 30, 2021

**MR. WURSTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PAYABLE LISTING AS OF JUNE 30, 2021.
MR. ROONEY WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.**

6. BIDS, PROPOSALS & CONTRACTS

There were none.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

WURSTER Mr. Wurster stated he virtually attended the two strategic planning sessions.

ROONEY Mr. Rooney indicated he appreciated Chief Hoff's advocacy in support of enforcement of the fireworks law. He noted at the last Spring Garden Township meeting, it was agreed to have of draft of the enforcement law sent to local officials.

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HOVIS Solicitor Hovis stated he would suggest an ordinance tying it to a property owner. He noted currently the state law provides that police have the ability to cite the person who actually discharged the firework, and therefore, by making it the owner it would be more restrictive than the state law.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Volunteer Committee

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated he has not heard from Mr. Grubbs who is on vacation.

9. RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

There was nothing for action this month.

10. ACTION ON MINUTES

A. Approval of Minutes – June 15, 2021 – Fire Commission Meeting

MR. WURSTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2021 AS SUBMITTED. MR. ROONEY WAS SECOND. MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

11. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

12. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

13. ADJOURNMENT

HUNT Chairman Hunt adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file at YAUFR Headquarters

Charles Wurster
Secretary
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