

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

**DECEMBER 19, 2023
APPROVED**

The York Area United Fire and Rescue Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at YAUFR Headquarters, 50 Commons Drive, York PA

MEMBERS IN

ATTENDANCE: Deb McCune, Vice Chairperson, Manchester Township
Andy Seebold, Treasurer (via Zoom)
Thomas Gwilt, Secretary, Spring Garden Township
David Detwiler, Spring Garden Township
George Dvoryak, Springettsbury Township
Charles Wurster, Springettsbury Township (via Zoom)
John Inch, Manchester Township (via Zoom)

NOT PRESENT: Dan Rooney, Chairman, Spring Garden Township

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Daniel Hoff, YAUFR Chief
Walter Tilley, Solicitor
Paul Grubbs
Lester Rhoads
Don Bishop (via Zoom)
Battalion Chiefs
Firefighters
Sue Sipe, Stenographer

CALL TO ORDER

A. Opening Ceremony

1. Pledge of Allegiance

MCCUNE Vice Chairperson McCune called the meeting to order. She led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Swearing in Ceremony

HOFF Chief Hoff introduced Firefighter Nick Davis who has completed his probationary requirements and is to be sworn in as a firefighter with YAUFR. Chief Hoff indicated Firefighter Davis is currently a member of the Army National Guard. He began his fire service career with the Mt. Wolf Fire Company. Chief Hoff stated Firefighter Davis is joined by his mother, Carla and father, Bill.

McCUNE Vice Chairperson McCune administered the Oath of Office to Firefighter Davis.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

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Vice Chairperson McCune announced there would not be an Executive Session following the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

4. MANAGEMENT/ATTORNEY REPORTS

A. Solicitor Walter Tilley

TILLEY Solicitor Tilley stated he had no report.

B. Daniel Hoff, Fire Chief

HOFF Chief Hoff commented they had a great turnout on Saturday for the check presentation from T-Mobile. He noted this was followed up with the Santa Run through Manchester Township.

Chief Hoff reported they were turned down for both the SAFER Grant and Fire Prevention & Safety Grant. He noted the grants will reopen in January 2024 and they will consult with FEMA representatives for assistance in reapplying.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A. Payable Listing as of November 30, 2023

MR. DVORYAK MOVED TO APPROVE THE PAYABLE LISTING AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2023. MR. GWILT WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. BIDS, PROPOSALS & CONTRACTS

There were none.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

WURSTER Mr. Wurster thanked John Inch and Andy Seebold for their service during this past year as members of the Commission.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Volunteer Committee

GRUBBS Mr. Grubbs stated he had no report.

B. Personnel Committee

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WURSTER Mr. Wurster thanked Ms. McCune for her work on the Committee. He indicated the Committee met to resolve the merit issue with the Cash Balance Plan. Mr. Wurster indicated this is a fixed annuity which provides stability in pension funds for the firefighters. Additionally, as researched and discussed as part of the Personnel Committee and the Commission, this has been recommended by Chief Hoff in order to make the transition from captain to battalion chief a smoother transition.

Mr. Wurster indicated the Personnel Committee recommends authorizing the Personnel Committee and Staff to develop a Cash Balance Plan with PMRS for full-time, non-union staff.

MS. McCUNE MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE AND STAFF TO DEVELOP A CASH BALANCE PLAN WITH PMRS FOR FULL-TIME, NON- UNION STAFF.

Discussion:

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak asked about a question raised in a previous meeting relating to if the plan fell short of meeting the benefit requirements who would make up the gap – PMRS or YAUFR. He asked if that question was resolved.

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated in last month's packet he provided the information received from PMRS which indicated nothing in the plan document identifies the organization as being responsible for any shortfalls.

McCUNE Chairperson McCune confirmed the formalized documents will be reviewed and validated by the Solicitor.

MR. GWILT SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

9. RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

There were none.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – NOVEMBER 21, 2023 COMMISSION MEETING

MR. GWILT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2023 FOR THE COMMISSION MEETING AS PRESENTED. MS. McCUNE WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of the Six Year Term, Apparatus Replacement Plan as Presented on November 21, 2023

HOFF Chief Hoff referred to the discussion held last month regarding the need for replacement of four pieces of apparatus, two of which have already exceeded 20 years of service. He noted they are encountering a 36-month lead time to receive apparatus when ordered. This will put a ladder truck and a rescue truck in excess of 25 years.

Chief Hoff stated as reported by BC Wolfgang last month, the financing opportunity is through Leasing Two with total equipment cost at \$5.6 million and an escrow discount of \$594,000 with financing for \$5,054,729 over six years. First payment due would be February 15, 2025. This would be one payment per year for six years. After the first of the year the industry will have a 4% to 7% increase in costs. Consequently, waiting to place the order until January could result in a \$400,000 additional increase.

Chief Hoff introduced Brad Myers from Lease Two to address questions.

Discussion ensued with the following questions/comments:

- What is effective lease rate on the applied interest rate on the lease
- The next effective rate is 2.5% - the interest rate is 5.76% on the 6-year term
- Could the financing arrangement be changed at a later date if warranted
- Upon agreement the rate is locked in, which is what allows the escrow (Myers)
- Is there a prepayment penalty to pay off that loan
- There is no penalty – they do not charge any fees up front (Myers)
- What is the difference between the interest rate and the effective interest rate – what brings it down to 2.7%
- The actual interest rate is 5.76% - 5 million goes into escrow up front and it earns interest while it is waiting for the trucks to be delivered and a conservative estimate on the escrow earnings is \$594,000. YAUFR would get all the excess earnings at delivery which is approximately \$150,000 more via a check once all the trucks are delivered in an escrow fund. (Myers)
- The order needs to be placed before the end of the year in order to lock in the pricing
- The expected delivery as of last month for the ladder truck is 42 months, rescue truck is approximately 36 months and pumpers are between 42 and 45 months.
- Alternative options were discussed if the proposal is not accepted, i.e., leasing options
- The proposal will be presented to each of the three municipalities to gain their input
- Need to close the contract by March 2024 (Myers)
- The Commission agreed to have the feedback to the municipalities by the February 2024 Commission meeting.

MR. INCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE SIX YEAR TERM APPARATUS REPLACEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED ON NOVEMBER 21, 2023. MR. GWILT WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

12. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve: 2024 Non-Union Holiday Schedule

MR. DVORYAK MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2024 NON-UNION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE. MR. GWILT WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

- B. Approve: Advertisement of the 2024 Fire Commission Meeting Schedule

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C. Approve: Advertisement of the 2024 Fire Pension Meeting Schedule

MR. GWILT MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADVERTISEMENT OF THE 2024 FIRE COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE AND THE 2024 FIRE PENSION MEETING SCHEDULE. MR. DVORYAK WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

13. ADJOURNMENT

MCCUNE Chairman McCune adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on File at YAUFR Headquarters

Thomas Gwilt
Secretary/ses