

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

**JUNE 16, 2026
APPROVED**

The York Area United Fire and Rescue Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at YAUFR Headquarters, 50 Commons Drive, York PA

MEMBERS IN

ATTENDANCE: Deb McCune, Chairperson, Manchester Township
Thomas Gwilt, Secretary/Treasurer, Spring Garden Township
David Detwiler, Spring Garden Township
George Dvoryak, Springettsbury Township
Don Bishop, Springettsbury Township
Craig Miller, Manchester Township
Thomas Mitten, Citizen-at-Large

ALSO IN

ATTENDANCE: Daniel Hoff, YAUFR Chief
Walter Tilley, Solicitor
Attorney Kathryn Silcox
Sue Sipe, Stenographer

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. Opening Ceremony

McCUNE Chairperson McCune called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

McCUNE Chairperson McCune announced an Executive Session would be held at the end of the meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kris Shearer, President, Greater York Professional Firefighters Association
Local 2377

SHEARER Mr. Shearer spoke about firefighter staffing, indicating he is representing the firefighters who serve the community and also residents who deserve the highest level of emergency services possible. Mr. Shearer stated in the past members of the Commission recognized the fire department is understaffed, however, fire engines are still leaving the station with only two firefighters. He noted the issue is focused on safety. He expressed firefighters accept the risk which comes with the profession, but do not accept unnecessary risks caused by inadequate staffing.

Mr. Shearer addressed Comm. Dvoryak, noting he compared the department to Lower Paxton Township which is a volunteer department similar in size and population. He noted they are now a combination department necessitating additional hires. They are not permitted to respond to calls, unless there are three personnel on board the apparatus.

He addressed Comm. Bishop asking if he were trapped inside his home during a fire would he want a single firefighter entering alone to search for him, pointing out that is not safe for the firefighter and is not the most effective way to search, and he deserves better.

He addressed Comm. McCune asking if she were trapped in a vehicle after a serious crash, would she want one firefighter trying to save lives in the vehicle, operate the rescue tools while trying to rescue her. He indicated she too deserves better and those situations deserve a properly staffed response.

Mr. Shearer indicated last week he heard “no two municipalities should take budget approval away from another municipality”. However, he noted that no one municipality should take away two other municipalities’ right to provide properly staffed fire apparatus to their citizens. In regard to the budget, what he heard at the meeting was the Commissioners have to answer to their constituents. He indicated he reached out to their constituents noting for years they had been told that staffing has not been approved because residents are not demanding it. He noted they started a petition in an effort to give the community a voice, sharing the facts - many of them produced by this department and the Commission, about why staffing matters. From all three townships, they have had residents, workers, business owners, teachers, healthcare professionals and community leaders sign the petition, because they understand what is at stake.

He cited a recent fire situation in which citizens were begging for help while the first engine arrived with only two firefighters on board. Another incident cited a MAYDAY issued by Captain Stroble after finding himself alone in a building following citizen rescues. Mr. Shearer stated safe staffing is a fundamental component of public safety that the Commissioners are responsible for providing. Mr. Shearer pointed out the facts have been provided and the residents are speaking, proving the department needs proper safe staffing.

Vice President McCune stated the Board has been discussing the issue and will be determining how many firefighters to add during the upcoming budget.

Mr. Dvoryak thanked Mr. Shearer and the Staff for their efforts in presenting the information and for their efforts every day to help the citizens of the community. He agreed safety is foremost and agreed the Commission will continue to address the issue and welcomed his input to determine what the proper level of manpower is. He extended his appreciation for what the firefighters do every day.

Mr. Detwiler stated all are in agreement the department is understaffed. He thanked Mr. Shearer for his presentation.

4. MANAGEMENT/ATTORNEY REPORTS

A. Solicitor Tilley

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

**JUNE 16, 2026
APPROVED**

TILLEY Solicitor Tilley stated his only action this month was assisting with a response to a Right to Know request.

B. Daniel Hoff, Fire Chief

HOFF Chief Hoff reported there were three graduates from the HACC Fire Academy on June 12, 2026. He noted last week they conducted interviews for potential new hires. They will be conducting promotional testing to establish a list for lieutenant and battalion chief.

He indicated he met with the Springettsbury Township manager last week to discuss several issues, one of which was a citizen who inquired about residential sprinklers. He noted he and Mr. Hodgkinson discussed the Sprinkler Ordinance language.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak asked if there is a way to address how to ensure smoke alarms are installed in every house.

HOFF Chief Hoff provided information on the process used with the smoke alarm program, noting the current procedure is to assure smoke alarms are installed in residences, with assistance from the American Red Cross. He noted a sealed battery is contained in the smoke alarms.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak referred to information in Chief Hoff's report which indicated \$27,000 was received from the J&K Salvage fire.

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated this was cost recovery received from EPA who was in charge of the cleanup and contracted with YAUFR to provide standby services while the hazmat team was onsite. He noted they were billed for staffing and the apparatus.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak referred to a sign up with a company who bills insurance companies for accidents for which they were responsible. He noted each municipality had to adopt an ordinance to enforce that policy. He asked how can that program be enhanced.

HOFF Chief Hoff stated it falls short because there is no penalty for someone who does not pay.

SILCOX Attorney Silcox stated this is a civil action which can be brought for enforcement for collection purposes.

MCCUNE Chairperson McCune stated each municipality has to adopt an ordinance.

TILLEY Solicitor Tilley stated the ordinance is passed to authorize it by the municipalities, but the authorization goes to YAUFR.

Discussion was held and it was suggested to have Chief Hoff contact Pennsylvania Fire Recovery to obtain more detailed information with an enhanced plan for collection. It was noted to include this item on the agenda for the July meeting.

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

**JUNE 16, 2026
APPROVED**

BISHOP Mr. Bishop asked about the smoke detector program as to what else could be considered to bring more residences into compliance.

HOFF Chief Hoff stated they do their best to advertise through all public channels – website, Facebook, etc. - which are available through YAUFR to advertise the smoke alarm program. He also noted after a fire event they do “neighborhood saturation”, which is going door-to-door in a two-block radius from where the fire occurred.

Discussion was held concerning the potential for enacting a ordinance to make it mandatory for residences to have smoke detectors, as well as CO2 detectors.

MILLER Mr. Miller asked if there was an inventory of smoke detectors that have been installed in residences which would allow for follow-up replacements.

HOFF Chief Hoff noted the paperwork being accumulated for the Red Cross is detailed and provides that information.

5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLES

A. Payable Listing as of May 31, 2026

MR. MILLER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PAYABLE LISTING AS OF MAY 31, 2026. MR. GWILT WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

6. BIDS, PROPOSALS & CONTRACTS

A. Discuss/Approve: Funding Formula Assistance Proposals

HOFF Chief Hoff stated as a result of Mr. Dvoryak’s efforts, a representative from RKL reached out and a meeting is scheduled to review the specifics of the proposal.

DVORYAK Mr. Dvoryak noted this resulted from his contact with Doug Berman of RKL who indicated the branch of RKL that handles this is based in Reading. Mr. Dvoryak met with representatives at their Lancaster office to inquire if they would be interested in the project.

Discussion was held and it was determined if RKL expresses interest, they could provide a presentation at the July 13, 2026 workshop.

B. Discuss/Approve: Meeting Room Upgrade Proposal

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated they received two proposals – one from a local company, Steve Pappas from Custom Sound, with a quote of \$49,086.54. He noted this company provides all staff recommendations. The other company is New Era at a quote of \$75,551.00, however, several items would not be included in that quote.

Chief Hoff noted \$40,000 in Capital has been budgeted for the project, with another \$8-10,000 from a TMI grant.

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

**JUNE 16, 2026
APPROVED**

MITTEN Mr. Mitten asked about the existing equipment as to whether it could be used at another location.

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated they were contemplating setting up the equipment at Manchester Township's multi-purpose room. If that determines to be not feasible, the equipment would be advertised on Municibid.

MR. DVORYAK MOVED TO ACCEPT THE BID FOR THE MEETING ROOM UPGRADE PROPOSAL FROM STEVE PAPPAS, CUSTOM SOUND AT A COST OF \$49,086.54. MR. MILLER WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM COMMISSIONERS

MILLER Mr. Miller reported an educational event for children was held at the Manchester Fire Station to talk about fire safety and other topics.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Volunteer Committee

HOFF Chief Hoff stated a joint meeting was held on May 27, 2026 with Battalion Chief Ryno, who has experience with mergers and consolidation. He noted this was a good start with the potential to join together the two groups, which includes not only volunteers but the relief associations.

B. Personnel Committee

McCUNE Chairperson McCune indicated a new assignment will be discussed in the Executive Session.

9. RESOLUTIONS AND AGREEMENTS

There were none.

10. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes From May 19, 2026

MR. DVORYAK MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 19, 2026 MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MR. MILLER WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.

11. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discuss/Approve: Charter Agreement Amendments - no report at this time.

B. Discuss: Strategic Plan Update

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

**JUNE 16, 2026
APPROVED**

HOFF Chief Hoff indicated there are no updates at this time.

C. Discuss/Approve: Radio Replacement Plan

HOFF Chief Hoff stated funds were allocated in the Capital Plan this year for the portable radio replacement from 2023. He noted Spring Garden Township obtained an LSA Grant for the project at an amount of \$575,000. He noted the current cost for each radio is \$4,844. Quotes have been received from Harris Radio through York County and the Motorola dealer. Both prices are from Co-Stars. He noted mobile radios must be added to this purchase since that was included in the grant amount, as well as chargers. The quote through the York County radio department for Harris equipment was incomplete since many ancillary items were not included. A complete breakdown was received from Motorola, which based on the list price for the radios, their discount is approximately 40%. The final price from Motorola is \$859,941.89. Chief Hoff noted taking into consideration the grant amount and the contribution from the volunteer's share of the cost, YAUFR's share of the cost is \$210,227.10. It was clarified that the cost for the radios is \$930,044.90.

Chief Hoff stated both brands of radios were in the field and all employees were able to test them. The majority of the firefighters determined the design of the Motorola radio made for easier operations. Therefore, they are recommending the Motorola radios.

**MR. GWILT MOVED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE MOTOROLA RADIOS.
MR. MILLER WAS SECOND. MOTION UNANIMOUSLY PASSED.**

12. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discuss/Approve: 2027 YAUFR Budget Workshop Dates

HOFF Chief Hoff announced the workshop dates for staff – July 23, 2026, July 30, 2026, and August 6, 2026. The public budget workshop session will be held on August 13, 2026, at 7:00 AM.

13. ADJOURNMENT

McCUNE Chairperson McCune adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Signature on file at YAUFR Headquarters

Thomas Gwilt
Secretary/ses