

# Rapho Area Fire Advisory Council

## Minutes

March 16, 2021

### Voting Members:

Fire Department **Primary** Representatives:

Phil Colvin (Sta 7-5) \_X\_      Mark Duttera (Sta 2-7) \_X\_      Dan Reif (Sta 2-6) \_X\_

Fire Department **Alternate** Representatives:

Matt Kratz (Sta 7-5) \_X\_      Troy Montgomery (Sta 2-7) \_X\_      Jimm Landis (Sta 2-6) \_X\_

### Community Representatives:

Dale Murray (12/22) \_X\_      Pat Shupp (12/23) \_X\_      Jerry Kipphorn (12/21) \_X\_      Gary Good (12/23) \_X\_

### Ex-Officio

Township Supervisor Emergency Management Coordinator Township Manager

Mark Erb \_X\_      Lori Shenk \_X\_      Randall Wenger \_X\_

### CALL TO ORDER Temporary Chairman Phil Colvin at 7:00 PM

**REORGANIZATION:** With one nomination per position, the Secretary cast a single ballot for:

Chairman Phil Colvin

Vice Chairman Dan Reif

Secretary Dale Murray

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Quarterly Meeting: December 15, 2020. Motion by: Dan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark. Passed

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – there was none

### OLD BUSINESS

Alarm ordinance: Randall procured the Mount Joy Borough alarm ordinance. The Board of Supervisors (BoS) does not have a desire to pass such an ordinance.

Standardize all reports submitted by the fire companies: This has been done.

Council discussed Dale's suggestion to add a metric to track when fire department services were not needed. FD representatives will think about this.

Revise the funding formula?

Charts using the formula are now on the Dropbox

Dan noted that this formula has never been used since 2012. Phil noted that its purpose was to assess which of four municipalities got what level of service from one FD (FDMJ).

So, the way this Fire Council has intended to use the formula is backwards from its intended purpose. This is why it simply doesn't work for our purposes, especially since it shortchanges Mastersonville which has the most challenges in funding.

Phil also noted that FD revenue ought to be in any funding formula. He said the goal should be that no FD should have to do fund raising to survive. Mark D. noted that he gets mixed messages on whether volunteers should be fund raising.

Council had further discussion on fund drive mailers. FDMJ is substantially more successful with their mailer. They do mail to Rapho residents with a disclaimer noting the Emergency Services tax.

Phil noted a fire tax is capped at 3.0%. The Rapho tax is now 1.5% but is not restricted to emergency services. An actual fire tax would have to be used for FDs.

After much discussion, Dale offered to work with Randall to come up with some kind of formula that would have value with clear weighting factors. This will be passed by Phil and the result will be brought back to the Council.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORTS**

### **OPERATION/CALL VOLUME**

Refer to filed reports in Dropbox

Incidents of note? There were none this quarter.

### **FINANCIAL**

See department financial reports.

Financial details of note?

FDMJ - None

Mastersonville

Mastersonville had a traffic accident with their 1999 engine. The engine was a complete loss. Erie insurance, after pressure from the agent, has agreed to cover \$94,050 which is in the range of actual value for this engine.

Replacement cost of this vehicle will be \$500-700K. They have not yet concluded how much capital request they will need.

Phil suggested that the FDs use replacement cost insurance coverage and mentioned a couple carriers.

Manheim - None

## **CAPITAL PLANNING**

FDMJ – None needed

Mastersonville –

Matt Sheck: Be prepared for a request that may come before the next quarterly Fire Council meeting to replace the wrecked engine.

Manheim – They have set up a committee for future improvements to their building.

**TWP & COMMUNITY REPORT** - [by township manager]

Capital reserve fund balances [does not include Quarter 1 additions by the township]

FDMJ: \$261,047

Mastersonville: \$527,837

Manheim: \$346,047

Development updates:

Matt Gohn: Need a building plan for Amazon [Forever 21] building.

A spec warehouse will be built in Cornerstone 1 lot.

**CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR CAPITAL FUNDS** -

A motion was made by Dan, seconded by Jerry, to authorize Mastersonville to withdraw up their full balance in their capital reserve fund to replace the wrecked engine. Passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussed recruiting and reward programs.

FDMJ is starting work on a strategic plan using a consultant. It could become a template to be shared.

Phil again noted that the municipality needs to define their service requirements to the Council.

**NEXT MEETING DATES** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 7:00PM @ Rapho Twp Building

**June 15, 2021**

**Sept 21, 2021**

**October 19, 2021: Budget workshop**

**December 21, 2021**

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM**