

# Butler Township Fire Commission

## January 20, 2016

The Butler Township Fire Commission held a meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Butler Township Municipal Building, 290 South Duffy Road, Butler, PA 16001.

The following members were in attendance: Primary Member Joe LaDue from Station No. 3; Primary Member John Lutz from Station No. 6; Primary Member Karl Kobil from Station #7; Bill O'Brien; Commissioner James Lokhaiser, Jr; Commissioner Dave Zarnick; Fire Marshal Larry Christy and Manager Ed Kirkwood.

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There was a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

It was noted that copies of the minutes are to be sent to all members of the Fire Commission including both alternate members.

Motion by Joe LaDue to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2015 meeting, seconded by Karl Kobil. The vote was Station 3: Yes; Station 6: Yes; Station 7: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; O'Brien: Yes. Motion carried.

There was no public comment on agenda items.

### Purchases

Toby Wehr, representing Station 3, presented the request to purchase two MSA Evolution 6000 Thermal Imaging Cameras with truck chargers for no more than \$19,800.00 to be placed in the new Rescue 3 and the new Engine 3. The cameras will be purchased with monies out of the General Fund. There are plans to purchase two additional thermal Imaging cameras with 2016 PEMA Grant Funds. Two older model thermal imaging cameras have been sold, with plans to sell two additional units.

Motion by John Lutz to approve the purchase of two MSA Evolution 6000 Thermal Imaging Cameras with truck chargers for no more than \$19,800.00, seconded by Joe LaDue. The vote was Station 3: Yes; Station 6: Yes; Station 7: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; O'Brien: Yes. Motion carried.

Station 6 had no purchase requests.

Station 7 had no purchase requests.

### New Business

A discussion was held on the scheduling of meetings for the Red Book Review. Available dates from each department will be sent to Marcie within one week so that meetings dates can be

arranged and the process begun. Copies of the Red Book will be provided to the review committee members.

Motion by Joe LaDue to start to schedule meetings for the Red Book Review, seconded by Karl Kobil. The vote was Station 3: Yes; Station 6: Yes; Station 7: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; O'Brien: Yes. Motion carried.

Fire Marshal Christy stated that First Quarter Action Items are now due.

Fire Marshal Christy presented information on the firefighter physical requirements. A discussion was held concerning the Hepatitis B tests. Paula Schmidt will contact Marcie to discuss the testing. Fire Marshal Christy noted that we are working on arranging for the physicals to be completed at Butler Medical Associates. Currently the lift tests for the firefighter physical cannot be completed at their facility, but arrangements are being made to complete the test at another local facility.

Emergency Vehicle Driver's Physicals can be completed at either the Med Express Office on New Castle Road or the Butler Medical Associates Office on North Main Street.

Motion by Karl Kobil to authorize Butler Medical Associates as a provider for the new member firefighter physicals and emergency driver's physicals, seconded by John Lutz. The vote was Station 3: Yes; Station 6: Yes; Station 7: Yes; Lokhaiser: Yes; O'Brien: Yes. Motion carried.

Manager Kirkwood presented the request to hold a meeting between the fire department representatives and the township to discuss fire department fund allocations. The departments are to discuss the issue with their membership and select a representative to speak on behalf of their department. The township will email available meeting dates to the departments to set up a meeting within the next week or two.

Fire Marshal Christy asked for questions or comments from any visitors.

Paula Schmidt asked how the monies were distributed from the Fireman Raffle. She was directed to approach the Fireman's Association for that information, as the Fire Commission does not oversee the Fireman's Raffle.

John Lutz asked if there is anything in regards to the state budget impasse that the fire departments should be concerned about. Manager Kirkwood suggested that he contact Neil at Representative Ellis' office for this information. Fire Marshal Christy stated that he had a meeting with the state fire commissioner and the governor and they both stated that any funding to any of the emergency services will be approved.

Fire Marshal Christy stated that there is talk of approving the sale of fireworks in Pennsylvania with the taxes collected from these sales to go toward Fire Services.

Fire Marshal Christy asked Station 7 about their progress with the Firehouse Software.

Fire Marshal Christy reported that the state has approved a new reporting system called Emergency Reporting. It is a Cloud based internet system. Several fire departments across the state have started using the program and it is getting good reports. The company is offering a onetime download of the Fire House information to populate the reporting system. The download should be done using the National Fire Incident Reporting portion of Firehouse. If you don't use that portion it will not populate that information. A demonstration of the Emergency Reporting program will be arranged as soon as possible.

A discussion was held on getting assistance from the Road Department during emergency calls. The departments are to call Public Works Superintendent Tom Knights if they need assistance from the Road Department. Road Closed signs and barricades are available at any time to the fire departments at the municipal building garage. The road department vehicles can also be contacted through the radio system.

Commissioner Lokhaiser introduced himself to those in attendance.

Motion by Joe LaDue and seconded by Karl Kobil, to adjourn the Fire Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m.