

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Upper Macungie Township was held on June 13, 2018, at 7:00 PM, at Fire Station 56 located at 6510 Schantz Road, Allentown, PA 18104. Those present were Chairman, James M. Brunell; Vice-Chairman, John "Sean" Gill; Supervisor, Kathy A. Rader; Township Manager Robert R. Ibach; Assistant Township Secretary, Cindy Yaskowski; Bureau of Fire Director, Grant Grim; and Station 56 Fire Chief, Leroy Gross.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss matters with volunteer fire company, Station 56, in Upper Macungie Township; any other issues that may come before the Board; and, to take any necessary action, if appropriate.

Chairman Brunell opened the meeting and asked all present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The Board of Supervisors held an open discussion at this public meeting with members of Station 56, who attended the meeting.

ACTION UPDATES:

- New hose was ordered in December.
- Continue to advertise the Amazon Smiles and clothing bin, etc. on social media, website, newsletter and Nixle.
- Training Facility at North Quarry – the gate was moved, some stone for the driveway is installed and grass is seeded. Budget items for next year are stone, blacktop and containers.
- As of now, no grant book is available for the fire companies from Senator Pat Browne's office.
- Equipment – plans are for Truck 5612 to be replaced in 2026 and Truck 5611 replaced in 2032. Current replacement policy is to go by year of equipment and out of date technology. Company wants to review equipment replacement policy.
- Formal agreements between the Township and Fire Companies were acknowledged at their individual yearly organizational meetings.
- Firefighter Reimbursements – an answer on how they report reimbursements on taxes will be provided by September after meeting with other fire companies, and council, if needed.
- Uline donations were completed for all 3 Companies. Fire Chief Gross thanked VC Gill for help in obtaining the donations. The companies will track yearly donations and a photo and article about Uline's donations will be in the Fall Township Newsletter.
- Currently Fire Inspectors respond to Station 56 and Director Grim responds to other stations. Director Grim will write up a formal policy for Manager Ibach to approve.
- Communications and training- all Company officers are getting communications through emails and a training committee keeps all firefighters informed by using the app *Teamup*. Procedures will be written.
- The company creating the new website, Digital Feast, has scheduled a video and photography shoot for June 18, 2018. The site should be launched 30 days after that date and will be linked to the Township website.
- Firehouse reports are continuously being entered and brought up to date.
- Volunteers met with Fire Chief Gross regarding the establishment of a Ladies Auxiliary. However, there has been no further interest from the volunteers.



DISCUSSIONS

- Recruitment & Retention by using Facebook and updating website. Also, applied for the Safer Grant.
- Safer Grant – applied for this 3 year grant (\$55,250/yr.) that markets for personnel; Includes promoting a fireman every month in the newspaper and using gift card incentives. Later in the year Director Grim will know if awarded.
- AFG Grant – should know by the end of month if we get the \$268,750 grant. Will use it for air packs so all 3 Fire Companies are standardized.
- W. Lehigh Chamber of Commerce Grant for \$ 1,000.00 – Although received this past year, and normally we don't get it every year, still submitted for this year.
- Active Shooter SOG – UMT Deputy Chief of Police J. Wilson reviewed and added a few items; at next Fire Company Officers' meeting it will be reviewed for any additions or changes; getting quotes for equipment; will continue training;
- Supervisor Rader questioned why our fire companies sell equipment to other fire companies that is still useable. It was explained by personnel from Station #56 that UMT fire companies have heavier yearly usage than a smaller fire company.

NEW BUSINESS

- Recent fund drive in April; mailed approx. 2700 requests, received 403 donations, (a little over 5%) totaling \$17,236; equates to \$42.80/household responding, but equates to only \$6.38 per household of the 2700 household requests.
- Relations are good with other departments; completed a few trainings together.
- Created a document with procedures on how to become a fire fighter and have shared this with the other companies.
- Recruited 5 new members this year.
- Standard Operating Guidelines have been adopted by this fire company.
- Station Captain Shohn Montano told the Board they appreciated the training at FDIC in Indianapolis.
- Fire Chief Gross thanked the Board for their support and the equipment received.
- There will be five \$2,000 scholarships this year from the golf outing.

Supervisor Rader asked Director Grim to remind other fire companies that the Western Lehigh Chamber of Commerce Grant for \$1,000 needs to be submitted by early July.

A tour of the fire station was offered to the Board and attendees by Station Captain Montano.

Upon a motion by Chairman Brunell, seconded by Supervisor Rader and unanimous, the meeting is adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Cindy Yaskowski
Cindy Yaskowski, Assistant Township Secretary



Cindy Yaskowski