



FIRE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

- Minutes -

Fire Chiefs

Keith Brown
Anthony Fuller
Jeffery Lewis

February 22, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Committee Chairman

Jeffrey S Rhoades

Emergency Management

Thomas Vicchiariello

Committee Members

Misty Fuller
Stanley Siegel
Colin O'Connell

Call to Order: **6:42pm**

Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Jeffrey S Rhoades, Stanley Seigal, Colin O'Connell, Keith Brown, Anthony Fuller, Jeffrey Lewis, Tom Vicchiariello, ,

Public Comment: *(5-minute limit per person)*. Ed Pavlich and Dick Roberts and 4 members from Engine 6 talked about an issue they had with the cities decision the to turn their parking area located across the street from their fire house into an EV Charge Station. It was purchased by the city from the DuBois family for the sole use for the Firemen to park. Also, the shed on the property, that they store some equipment was gifted to them by the same family. It was discussed that the decision was made with out consulting the members of the firehouse and they found out about the September agreement in December. Valerie Maginsky provided Stan Seigal with the emails that were sent, with the parties involved, and it didn't include anyone from the fire house. A diagram was shown where it looks like only 5 cars would fit not the 6 like planned. Other issues that were addressed was where the people would go while there cars were charging. They suggested to have the charging stations in town where it would benefit our merchants. Keith brought up the fact that the charging stations couldn't be near buildings or other parked cars because it was a fire hazard and had to be a mile from Route 84. Other locations were suggested like North St or Christopher Marion Park. Tom Vicchiariello brought up the fact that the Solar Code needs to be researched. The city charter states that it needs to be of Primary use but its an accessory use.

Approval of the Minutes: None

Fire Chief's Report:

Old Business:

- Still trying to get cameras for the training center to keep vandalism and dumping down
- Engine 6 sewer repairs are progressing. Parts are there.
- Working on the study for the new central fire house RFQ
- Still checking to see if we can bill for large scale fires which can be costly
- Fixing Engine 5 pump is progressing. The engine is done and the 3rd party pump test was done. That test failed. There are working on replacing a valve that hopefully will the reason it didn't pass. The engine was covered by insurance but the pump was not. That's a fire department expense.
- Replacing apparatus is still being worked on. Still working on the financial aspect.

New Business:

- Had a meeting with the police department about the new parade route. The traffic should flow better.
- Attached is the 2023 fire call summary
- AFG Grant is almost done. They keep asking for more information and we are working with the grant writer.
- Truck 7 passed the 5 year ladder test
- T-Mobile is ready to go live with MDT switching from Verizon. We will be setting up the tablets in the trucks soon.
- Lexipol Teleconference is live for the city. We will so be able to track and preform required training i.e Bloodborne Pathogens and Sexual Harassment.
- Physicals are complete for interiors and drivers
- Bail-out training and recertification almost done for interior fire fighters 2 more classes to go.
- 2 live burn dates set in march for interior firefighters.
- EV Underwater Drone will help with the dive standard because Port Jervis divers do not have a commercial dive standard. They are limited to less that an hour underwater.
- The disposable AED are not made for vehicles they are made more for a building.
- There now is no money in the budget for a new SUV. There was money but it may have been reallocated to somewhere else. This purchase is not a bondable.

A Comment was made from Stan Seigel regarding a issue with the traffic signal by the Mobil station. About a week ago there was a fire call to Ben's Fresh. Numerous apparatuses arrived at the scene. This caused the Opticon at the traffic light to have all traffic stopped with a red signal. Stan stated that it seemed that the lights started back up again on its own. It may have timed out. Tony Fuller suggested the next time that Stan radio in the issue with the lights and the Opticon system can be turned off to let traffic flow.

Emergency Management/ Vehicle Maintenance Report:

Old Business:

- The siren at the Farnum Building has been replaced and is working.
- All the phones in the Fanum building are working except DPW and PD

New Business:

- Annual inspections and annual service of fire apparatus is being done.
- Truck 7 has an issue with the DEF. Chief Brown discussed the changes in the standard for adding a heat block to have cleaner burning engines.
- Parts for some of the older apparatus is getting hard to come by due to the fleet getting older.
- The last Action Plan of the reservoir dams was done in 2010. There was an inspection of the Dam in 2022 and there was nothing bad or critical. There was an inspection done at the end of December, but we didn't get the results back yet. There is a concern over the 24 inch pipe that runs from the reservoir. It was installed in 1889 and has many issues. It's a concrete pipe and has several weeds growing in it. This pipe is crucial for the city to get water to the residents and to the hydrants.
- There is a squirrel issue at the Farm Building. The alarm had to be shut down because the squirrels are damaging the wires..
- 911 Boxes are good but the speakers are not. We are working on them.
- The heavy rains the past couple of months have put a strain on the sewer system. With many homeowners their sump pumps go to the sewer and not the street. This is causing a large increase of water sewer system.
- There will be a Tri-County River Drill in April. Also a live drill in Lake Wallenpaupack.

Public Comment: (5-minute limit per person)

Adjournment: 7:41 pm

Next F&EM Meeting Monday March 18th, 2022, at 6:30pm, in the Council Chambers