

## **Department Meeting - Warren Township Fire Department**

**May 17, 2021**

**Meeting Called to Order: 20:04**

**Pledge**

**Moment of Silence**

**Reading of Previous Meeting Minutes**

Motion to Approve: Brandon Harris / Jack Haiken

**Treasurers Report**

No report due to figures unavailable

Additional Notes: Mike Dalton indicated the only change other than monthly fees was a \$100 transfer from one account to the other.

**Report of the Committees**

**Car Show:** Committee voted not to have due to Covid concerns.

**Relief:** Jim Mitchell reported that Emma Reedman would be taking over as Relief Secretary in June, as Nick Smith is moving to Vermont .

**Fire Police:** Kathy Dalton reported that members who attended the Fire Police training should contact Cathy Reese at Town Hall to take the oath and for her to send in the corresponding diploma registration..

**Old Business:** Department By-laws: Article 10 amendment. Old and new versions were read by Andy Childers, who indicated no vote would be taken today. Joe Giardina asked why not, which Andy replied was due to current rules. George Cooney questioned virtual meetings in new amendment, which was clarified. George also asked about absentee voting for amendments, which was clarified could not occur. Andy indicated new amendment would be sent to firehouse secretaries to distribute to members. Updated amendment attached.

Jim Mitchell questioned the department email list being valid due to old/non-active members still on it.

**Chief 61:** Report from chiefs meeting that Dispatcher Kull congratulated the department on the Sugarwood fire response. Derek Reedman responded back. On 5/19, Covid shot pop-up site will occur at Washington Valley from 3-7pm. J&J shot will be available.

Equipment officer (Vito Truglio): CO meters to be updated and flashlights & batteries will be available.

The 5/26 drill will be CEVO at WV for dept. drill.

Derek Reedman is setting up an autism awareness class, details TBD. He's also coordinating a future live burn in Piscataway, as well as a rope rescue class.

Chief Russo and Al Shjarback indicated the water tower on Lindbergh low income housing is looking to get proper fittings for our use. Two buildings are up, with a third to be constructed shortly. Jim Devizio questioned road quality; described as dirt, but passable.

Dave Dante and Chief Russo indicated a Covid policy was needed, as well as town hydrants need checks.

Derek, Mark and Aram are working to finalize the new apparatus, which the town gave \$1.2 million for. Sutphen chosen over Pierce and Rosenbauer, and hope to see June approval.

Derek is planning a tech rescue class, but Chief Russo is awaiting state budget approval. Capital purchases may be approved soon.

IPAK class coming soon at Community; looking for more equipment to use for it.

Mt. Horeb looking for a new valve, which Chief Russo indicated he's working on.

Charlie Boschen indicated new saw is on backorder.

5/12 was Dealaman ceremony

RIT training: members should take the ops & supervisor classes to ensure they are able to participate in other town scenarios. More training to be scheduled.

Martinsville passed on thanks for WTVFD assist recently.

Complaints about fire call reports id'd, indicating fraud is occurring. This needs to stop, as members will be held accountable.

George Cooney questioned about spare batteries for Milwaukee tools. Chief Russo asked Jim Mitchell to confirm. Jim indicated deal lost to due to Mark Krane delays and not followed up due to chief change. Suggested to check w/Meghan to clarify on PO.

Dave Dante questioned about logging onto calls, as certain I-78 blocking calls do not show up automatically in Red Alert. Chief Russo stated that members should not expand names to fill in rig occupants, which he is upset about. It was clarified that members should call in on the radio to clearly state their intent so it would be logged.

**New Business:** Aram Kachidurian asked for clarification on \$10K for firematics equipment and training. It was not prepared, and Chief Russo proposed that house treasurers meet to discuss and reconcile. Seconded by Derek Reedman. Members stated that money was used for equipment & training, and older radios were mentioned as well. Chief Russo and George Cooney discussed and agreed that a paper trail/audit should occur. Aram K. proposed this and Joe Giardina seconded the motion that this money should be split evenly among the houses and then reported back to the department treasurer for proper accounting. Chief Russo asked for the accounting from treasurers related to the initial \$4700 per house be accounted for. Aram Kachidurian proposed this, and Andy Fitch seconded. Mike Dalton noted that WV had already reported this.

**Good & Welfare:** No Report

**Motion to Close:** Eric Limbo / Jack Haiken 21:21

**Attendance:**

Attendance 5/17/21

JAMES DEITZIO # 4  
Mila DALTON # 4  
AL SHARBACK # 1  
JOE GIARDINA # 4  
ERIC Limbo # 3  
GEORGE Conroy NO. 2  
Don Strickland # 4  
Charles Boscho. # 4  
Derek H Reedman # 2  
KENNETH E. LARSON FP  
Mary Russo # 1  
Miles Ples Graves # 3  
John Schipani # 1  
Justin Colman # 1  
Christopher Monroy # 3  
Jack Haiken # 1  
Andrew Sarna # 1  
Kathy Dalton FP # 4  
Warren Conroy # 2  
David Deita # 2  
Mark Russo # 1  
Andy Childes # 1  
Brian Cashman # 3

Larry Chan  
in Building Construction  
Class. Per Chief  
de per Russo  
Andy Childes

**Warren Twp. Volunteer Fire Department**  
**Previous Notice - Proposal to Amend Article X of the WTVFD bylaws**

Proposed by: Andy Childers

Date: 4.30.21

Rationale: For the purpose of clarifying the process to amend the bylaws of the Warren Twp. Volunteer Fire Department.

Current Bylaw:

**ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular or special meeting by following Robert's Rules of Order.

Proposed Amendment:

To replace the first and only sentence in Article X with more specific details that fully explains the process of amending the bylaws according to Robert's Rules of Order – Newly Revised, 12<sup>th</sup> Edition (RONR).

Proposed Bylaw:

**ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS**

**Section 1**

- A) Per Section 2-4.12 of the Warren Township Fire Department Ordinance, the WTVFD is "authorized to supplement this section with bylaws pertaining to their organization and membership, adopted and amended in such manner as they shall determine, provided that the same shall not conflict with any provision of this section or be in derogation of any authority vested by this section." Additionally, the WTVFD bylaws cannot be amended in such a way that would be in conflict with any federal, state or local law, regulation or ordinance.
- B) In order to make a motion to amend the bylaws (as defined in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised - 12<sup>th</sup> ed. [RONR Ch.57] *Previous Notice* [RONR 10:44-47, 56:50-52, 57:14] must be given at the prior regularly scheduled Department Meeting. This written notice must include a) the current bylaw b) the proposed amendment and c) the bylaw as it will read if the amendment is adopted. The notice should include the proposers' name(s) and the rationale for offering the amendment. The entire text of the *Previous Notice* should be included in the meeting minutes.
- C) A Committee shall be appointed by the WTVFD President consisting of one member each from the Mt. Bethel, Mt. Horeb, Community and Washington Valley Fire Companies who shall be responsible for discussing the proposed amendment with their members at their next monthly Company Meeting. The Committee Members shall then meet with the Originator of the *Previous Notice* within 3 weeks after the Company Meetings to discuss and propose any changes that they would like to include in the proposed amendment.
- D) The Originator must then revise and rewrite the *Previous Notice* to include the Committees recommended changes to the best of their ability. This *Revised Notice* must be emailed to each company President, Secretary and Committee Member. The company Secretary shall be responsible for distributing it to all the members of their company that are eligible to vote for executive (non-firematic) positions in the department.
- E) At the next regularly scheduled Department Meeting following the *Previous Notice*, a motion must be made to amend the bylaw. The motion must be seconded. [RONR 35:2] The current bylaw should be read, and the bylaw as it will read if adopted should be read. This should all

- be the exact same wording and text as the *Revised Notice* that was emailed to each Company as set forth in Section 1-D above.
- F) Debate, Primary and Secondary amendments to the proposed bylaw amendment are allowed, but they can't exceed the scope of the *Revised Notice*. [RONR 35:4, 35:2(6),57:11] Primary and Secondary amendments to the Main Motion require a majority vote of all eligible members [RONR 57:10] in attendance at the meeting (either in-person or via live-streaming online platform). [RONR 9:31-36]
  - G) The Main Motion - the amendment of the bylaw - requires a *Previous Notice*, a *Revised Notice* as described above, and a two-thirds vote [RONR 56:50, 57:1(1)] of all eligible members in attendance at the meeting (either in-person or via live-streaming online platform). Absentee voting, or voting by email, text etc... is not permitted since absent members would not have been present for any potential primary or secondary amendments made immediately prior to the Main Motion. [RONR 9:34]
  - H) An affirmative vote on the Main Motion to amend the bylaw cannot be *Reconsidered* [RONR 35:2-8] and the amendment goes into effect immediately upon its adoption unless the motion includes a specific time for its becoming effective. [RONR 57:15-17]
  - I) A negative vote on the Main Motion can be *Reconsidered*. [RONR 37:1] The motion to *Reconsider* can only be made by a member who voted against the Main Motion and must be made in the same meeting that the Main Motion was voted upon. [RONR 37:8] The motion must be seconded, is debatable and must be approved by a majority of members present to be adopted. [RONR 37:5] If the motion to *Reconsider* is adopted, the original vote is cancelled and the Main Motion is re-opened to debate, amendment and a new vote as if it never happened previously. If, however, the motion to *Reconsider* is rejected, the original vote goes into effect as if the motion to *Reconsider* had never been made. [RONR 37:7]
  - J) The results of the vote must be counted, recorded and entered into the minutes.[RONR 57:9]
  - K) The bylaw document must immediately be revised and updated as amended; then dated and signed by the Executive Officers. A copy shall be sent to each Company and the Department Secretary and uploaded to the WTVFD website.

## Section 2

- A) If a *General Revision* (an extensive rewrite that often makes fundamental changes in the structure of the organization) is required, a bylaws committee as defined in Section 1-B must be formed and should reference and adhere to Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 12<sup>th</sup> ed. [Ch. 2 and 56] as if the bylaws were being considered and adopted for the first time.