

Warren Township Volunteer Fire Department
Minutes for December 6, 2016
Chief's Officers' Meeting

Adequate notice of this meeting was given by posting a copy on the Township Bulletin Board and sending a copy to the Township Clerk, Courier News and Echoes Sentinel as required by the Open Public Meeting Act.

Present: Fire Chief Mark Russo, Linda Palumbo

Mt. Bethel Fire Co.
Co. J. Morris

Mt. Horeb Fire Co.
C. Young & G. Cooney

Community Fire Co.
B. Gaiser

Washington Valley Fire
D. Strickland

Fire Police
Capt. K. Phillips

Police Dept.
J. Cohen

Police Report: Kudos to FD for helping at PBA breakfast & handling highway calls. Please be careful on roads since hazardous winter conditions are coming.

Administrative Items

- PSE&G Gas Emergency phone number info distributed
- Holiday Party this Friday, December 9 at Forest Lodge, 6:30pm
- 2017 Chief's meeting schedule distributed
- Info distributed on Clinton parade on May 20, 2017
- Quarterly review of purchases J. Mitchell

Old Business

- Update on new vehicle: At November's Township Committee meeting it was read. It will be discussed at December's Township Committee meeting too. Pierce will extend the price quote until end of January 2017.
- Looking for a volunteer to up a meeting with Ron Berry, Security for Middle & Elementary Schools, to find out where disconnect is for solar panels for elementary & middle schools. G. Cooney volunteered to handle.
- New Type II safety vests are required now (pg 9 of TIM's training manual)
- Reminder: ALL SCBA, equipment checks, and Engineer apparatus checks shall be faxed to 908-226-5629 (Township Administrator's fax machine) upon completion or email to Linda.
- FD is awaiting gear washer quote. G. Cooney met with the vendor but they haven't received a finalized quote yet.
- SCBA are approx. 6-7 yrs old. Ask members if they want to be on a SCBA research committee J. Mitchell will take the lead, D. Dante representing Mt. Horeb, B. Gaiser representing Community, V. Abate representing Washington Valley, A. Fitch representing Mt. Bethel

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Old Business continued

- M. D'Antico wants a knox box code. Get knox box codes to Chief Russo.
- Washington Valley's knox box needs to be installed.
- M. D'Antico gave the Chief's the Fire Rehab State list for the Rescue Squad at October Chief's meeting. No recommendations from Chiefs.
- Think of gift for annual FD dinner. Polo shirt, hat & sweater were discussed. Annual dinner will be in March on a Friday night.
- J. Mitchell distributed 2016 Firematics Project at October's meeting and the Chiefs received a copy. All Chiefs agreed to allow J. Mitchell to move forward with reviewing nozzle orders & following proposal guidelines. Chief Russo would like each firehouse's plan at the January Chief's meeting.
- Response Law would like to speak to the Fire Dept about the importance of documentation & liabilities involved in their actions as firefighters on Sat, Jan 28 at 9am until approx noon at Washington Valley, light refreshments will be served.

New Business

- Bonfire is Sat, January 14 from 4-7pm.
- OSHA came for a surprise visit recently to check FD paperwork due to a complaint. Then Chief Russo met with OSHA & brought NJ inspector to each firehouse. State inspector left a spare bottle door open at Mt. Horeb and he found 3 bottles low but G. Cooney found only 2 bottles low. State inspector has to call President for access to the firehouse. Each firehouse needs to have their MSDS book to include all their chemicals.

Drills/Training

- Every firehouse should keep training updated in Red Alert. Please send new training certificates to Linda and she will enter.
- Warren Township & State training requirements were discussed in detail. Firefighter 2 & Fire Officer training are highly recommended by NJ Standards. Live Burn Training & Flammable Liquids are annual requirements according to NJ Standards. C. Young suggested getting more firefighters to meet NJ Standards training requirements so they can be eligible for a higher position such as Assistant Chief in the coming years. The goal is to get some firefighters trained in Fire Officer 1 in 2017. Per Chief Russo re: 2017 elections, next week's election at a company level, put the most qualified person in the position who will be willing to

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Drills/Training continued

attend the recommended training using current state guidelines. C. Young will provide a training analysis in January & February 2017 meeting. In Chief Russo's closing statement he left the company elects up to the Assistant Chief for their review. This would include if someone had the certs we would follow the standard and if a member did not that we would use the state as a minimum guideline and all were in agreement.

- The following is the 2016 Training Schedule:
 - December 21- will be the dept drill night due to holidays
- CPR will be held on December 6 at 7pm & December 7 at 6:30pm at the Rescue Squad. Thanks to B. Gaiser for coordinating.
- Fit testing was held December 5 and will be held again on December 12 at 7pm at Mt. Bethel. You **must** attend one of these dates unless you completed fit testing at fire school within the year.
- FD received one quote to purchase a Fit testing machine.
- Bread & Butter training on April 1, 2017; if anyone wants to attend, email Linda to register.
- Fire Size Up training on Jan January 21, 2017; if anyone wants to attend, email Linda to register.
- Mayday training in the future.
- T. Byrne has a teacher who can teach Red Alert class during the day in February. Maybe one or two people per fire company can attend then can teach their own fire company; bring a name or two from your firehouse to the January Chief's meeting. K. Phillips would like to attend too.
- MRI Safety Training discs & info to the Captains were distributed.
- Captains are in charge of 2017 training.

Vehicle Maintenance & Apparatus

- Monthly Vehicle Maintenance report was distributed.
- Plymovent broke again on Mt. Horeb's Engine 2, repair for plymovent is currently being worked on; ball valve on medium foam valve is broken on Mt. Horeb's and tick, need replacement batteries.
- Engine 4 went out for "on spot chains" repair.

Fire Prevention

- Mt. Horeb went to the Wagner Farm Arboretum for a Santa event.

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- K. Phillips gave Chief Russo info on lights for the new vehicle per a memo.

Radios/Communications

- Chief Russo is working with a company to survey radio repeater equipment
- Somerset County turned off their old analog system. Engine, Tanker & Ladder vehicles have been reprogrammed to work with the new Somerset County radio system.

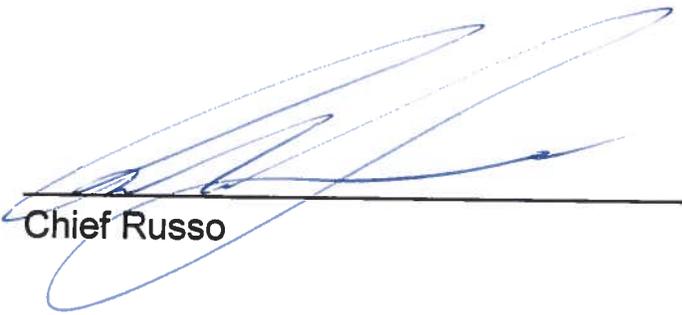
Open Discussion

- For 2017, we will be tracking monthly fire calls attendance sheets for each firehouse to avoid discrepancy at the end of the year.
- Keep path of communications open especially with training info.
- Need boots for Robby Tucker at Mt. Bethel.
- Need fire gear for members that graduated fire school. Chief would like to purchase 5 sets of fire gear each year.
- Need update on new pagers that were purchased with car show funds.
- Chief thanked FD for another great year. Chief will improve communication going forward.

Meeting adjourned at 9:28pm



Linda Palumbo


Chief Russo