

Warren Township Volunteer Fire Department
March 6, 2019 Minutes
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: Chief Mitchell & Linda Palumbo

Mt. Bethel Fire Co.

A. Fitch

Mt. Horeb Fire Co.

D. Dante & C. Young

Community Fire Co.

A. Kachadurian

Washington Valley Fire Co.

C. Boschen

Fire Police

K. Phillips

Police Dept.

J. Cohen & Karen

Police Report: The PD is asking if Joe Cassorio can make the decision to let the students back in the building if there's a fire call.

Chief Mitchell mentioned that the board is investigating a number of options, with liability being the primary concern. It was mentioned that there is absolutely no barrier preventing members of the police department from also being active with the fire department (several are already fully trained). An active, trained firefighter with IC1, operating under NIMS, would be able to assume control of the incident.

Reports of Officers:

Equipment Readiness (Ben Gaiser)

Company Equipment Checks

Consumables

Equipment Inventory / Asset Tagging (progress report): Approximately 1/3 to 1/2 of the asset tags are assigned to a company. Aram will email the list & will be working on the other asset tags that are not assigned to find them.

Drills / Training (Aram Kachidurian / Derek Reedman)

Driver Qualification Status

CPR (check list)

Fit Testing (and Train the Trainer): 3 firefighters will be trained

Department Drill Schedule 2019 was emailed to entire FD

March 27th - Pallet Warehouse walk through

Operations (Mark Russo)

Monthly and YTD activity report: In February there was 45 calls.

Vehicle response:

Engine 2 - 5 calls
Engine 3 - 26 calls
Engine 4 - 7 calls
Ladder 61 - 24 calls
Tower 61 - 0 calls
Tanker 61-3 0 calls
Tanker 61-4 2 calls
Rescue 61 - 12 calls

Chief Mitchell again requested that responses with a full crew be noted as part of the monthly operations reporting.

County Credentialing: Chief Mitchell & Brian need to sign Aram's county id Application. Completed.

Backup attack hose cache for each company - no update

2018 SCBA flow testing - equipment officer will take this over next year.

Washington Valley will have flow testing on March 11.

Vehicle Maintenance (Charlie Boschen)

Tower-61 Recall, completed

Rescue-61 light tower and electrical issues, ordering a new siren, need ETA 61-103 mobile radio, getting looked at Friday & M. Russo has looked at it.

Linda will find a vendor who can reprogram it.

WV Knox box codes, still pending

FLIR mounting in Tanker 4 and Engine 4; Absolute is the awarded vendor & should receive PO soon

Fire Prevention Education / Public Events (Dave Dante)

Hydrant Status Report-please report any damaged hydrant to Linda and Dave and they will contact the water company.

Fire Prevention Planning - no update

Fire Inspector / Fire Prevention (Al Shjarback): The work has started at the Somerset Hills Hotel; most of the work is still demolition work and a Building Supplied Fire Watch is being provided as needed. Once work impairs the sprinkler system on a full time basis, a 24x7 Fire Watch will be

Fire Inspector/Fire Prevention continued:

provided and I will update the Chief. The Fire Alarm system will have periods of impairment during the day but will be in full operation at night and weekends during the work period. Once we have a better established time line from the contractor for completion we will pass that on but we anticipate at least 6 months of work. No outstanding issues otherwise.

Radios/Communications (Brian Burkhardt)

Battery Status: WV needs HT1500 battery

Radio Inventory: Mt. Bethel & Mt. Horeb pagers done. Brian Burkhardt has Fire Police pagers too. A lot of pagers are missing, please try to locate them.

Safety (Mike Dalton)

Traffic safety policy review progress- drill in April

Fire Police - no update

Rehab Trailer development / status on contract with Somerville - no update

Overhaul meters - no update

Cancer Prevention - no update

Chief Items

Roster: Co #1,2,4 supplied rosters, need Company 3

Budget: \$10k left until May out of \$45k, no significant items purchased this month

Apparatus Replacement: 2 vehicles; Tanker w/ pump for Community & Rescue for Mt. Bethel. A standard requirement sheet was created and will be given to the vendors so there's an equal comparison.

Compensation plan - no update

PPE plan: looking to purchase 2 sets of gear for top responders since they need to be washed if worn to a fire & need a backup set if another fire call comes in.

Radio Replacement: Township Radio Replacement committee meeting was March 25 but is rescheduled. The goal is to modernize radio equipment.

We might need to move off our existing frequency as the FCC is planning to reallocate it. This massively complicates planning. We are also evaluating a change to the existing copper 'tie lines' used to connect towers and dispatch, looking at microwave or hybrid solutions

Chiefs Items Continued:

ISO audit - scheduled for March 28

Preplanning: no update

Update on Dinner Dance: closed out

Update on County Chiefs meetings and NMAA: no update

High School Resource officer request to re-admit students: see PD report above on page one.

Technical Rescue: there was a survey in January on Technical Rescue (TR) from the county. TR controls dispatch into towns, need to file a plan to the Federal Government, if not, county can dispatch those calls.

Ex: extrication & deer calls. Chief will create a plan. Some members are Swift water & Rescue certified but if anyone wants to train on this, it is encouraged. Chief suggested Rope & Haz Mat decontamination for training.

Adopt final apparatus naming policy: adopted as of today, March 6, 2019

Adopt final apparatus response policy: adopted as of today, March 6, 2019

Review new policy regarding mutual aid: a draft policy was distributed, please review and get your comments to Chief prior to the next Chief's meeting when it will be adopted.

Carryover: Event Manager software allows you to record, reroute incident, prioritize incidents & manage disasters. OEM will schedule a training for the FD. The FD has 5 licenses.

New Items from members

At the Department meeting, the floors were redone for Mt. Bethel so now the current compressor can't handle it so it needs rewiring at a cost of \$1,800.

Can the funds come out of the car show?

Per Jane Asch from OEM, there is a church in town that owns a mobile kitchen for first responders that can provide a free meal for approx 50-60 people & Washington Valley volunteered to act as the liaison to arrange a demo where the mobile kitchen will serve food and demonstrate its capabilities

Meeting adjourned at 8pm


Linda Palumbo


Chief Mitchell