

# Haverford Township Bureau of Fire

## January 2019 meeting minutes

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Location: Manoa Fire Company

Date: Tuesday, January 29, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

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### **Attendees:**

V. Berg, J. Ford, L. Gentile, G. Kelly, L. Lattanzio, T. McDonald, C. Millay, M. C. Norman, M. E. Norman, S. Poole, T. Straub, J. Viola, W. Wechsler

The meeting was called to order by Chief Viola at 6:56 p.m.

Representatives from the Rotary Club were in attendance. Each company received a survey for a 2019 needs assessment. The Rotary Club would like to address needs within the community. One example discussed was the lack of community awareness that our fire service is 100% volunteer and the impact this has on fire companies' annual fund drives. Recruitment and retention of volunteers and the impact of manpower on public safety were also discussed.

The reading of the minutes from the December meeting was waived.

Vote - Unanimous

### **Treasurer:**

Balance of account no change

### **Township Manager:**

L. Gentile reported that R. Maclary and his staff will be revamping the Township website.

### **Police:**

J. Viola reported the East Manoa Road bridge at Karakung Drive is closing in early April and will reopen in the fall. Old Manoa Road will be open for emergency vehicles. The Old Manoa Road bridge will no longer be there and the road will intersect with Karakung Drive. The Ardmore Avenue bridge will be closed for more than a year once work begins. The start date for this project is TBD. J. Viola will continue to forward PECO projects to the chiefs. L. Gentile reported that PennDOT will pave two state highways within the Township: Darby Road from Township Line Road to Sproul Road and Eagle Road from Township Line Road to Haverford Road.

### **Township Commissioners:**

W. Wechsler reported that the Township is currently searching for a successor for L. Gentile. The search committee consists of 6 individuals. There are 11 applicants so far. Aimee Cuthbertson will be the interim Township Manager as of April 1 until the new candidate is able to start. D. Mariani will be the interim director of Public Works.

### **EMS:**

No report

**Fire Prevention:**

No report

**Apparatus:**

All apparatus is in service

**Training:**

M. E. Norman discussed the RIT prop that was built in Manoa's rear garage. This prop is available for all Township companies to use. There will be a demonstration with the FAST Board vendor on February 25.

M. E. Norman discussed a training opportunity for "Stop the Bleed." The class coordinator needs a count of members that will attend. M. E. Norman will send a few dates out to the chiefs.

T. Straub indicated that there is HTRA money available for Township-wide training programs. M. E. Norman would like to bring the Mayday class back in town.

**Recruitment and Retention:**

The Township ceremony was held at the CREC. The chiefs recognized the committee for their efforts putting together a nice event.

**Radio:**

J. Viola attended the county Radio Committee meeting at the 911 center last week. The backup dispatch center at the training center is in the works. The RFP for the new radio system will be going out to engineering firms. The radio system will be on the 700-800 band. The RFP process will take several months. The upgrade of the radio system will be for all emergency services across the board. The county will probably have to fund radio replacement to some extent. The fire companies will have to supplement what the county provides. The project will take about 5 years to implement. All licenses for the 500 band expire in 2023. They are also looking at responding via computer rather than over the air.

**Codes Enforcement:**

S. Poole reported that we have been having alarm issues with Applebee's and a gas station. Codes responds each time there is an alarm. Both businesses are over 3 alarms for the quarter and have received citations.

S. Poole received a call from Mellon Restoration trying to track down the resident on Rockwood Drive. The resident's insurance adjuster advised the homeowner not to release any information. J. Viola suggested that going forward we should try to have the homeowner handle the board-up if possible.

S. Poole reported that the IT department is working on the next Township newsletter. There is a section available for the HTBF. The summer edition would cover July through mid-November. J. Viola will forward information out to the chiefs.

**Old Business:**

V. Berg reminded the chiefs about the proposed firefighter rehab guidelines. There was some discussion on firefighter accountability at rehab. This topic will be discussed more in February.

**New Business:**

T. Straub reported that our NFIRS report for the year was submitted and thanked everyone for their assistance in completing reports.

J. Ford thanked J. Viola for coordinating the annual HTBF dinner.

T. Straub reported that Oakmont has discussed Hepatitis B shots. This is required for new members but existing members may not be covered. L. Gentile indicated that Karen Murphy can coordinate titers and shots with Main Line Health.

The meeting was adjourned.

Motion - C. Millay, Second - M. Norman, Vote - Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,  
Lou Lattanzio  
Manoa Fire Company