

Haverford Township Bureau of Fire

September 2019 meeting minutes

Location: Haverford Township municipal building

Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Attendees:

D. Berman, C. Connell, J. Ford, F. Hand, W. Hatton, G. Kelly, L. Lattanzio, W. Maguire, J. McCans, T. McDonald, C. Millay, M. C. Norman, M. E. Norman, A. Sivak, J. Viola, W. Wechsler

The meeting was called to order by Chief Viola at 6:55 p.m.

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

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

Treasurer:

J. Viola reported money owed to the Bureau of Fire. Dues for the upcoming year will be \$150. J. Viola will send an email to serve as an invoice for each company.

Township Manager:

No report

Police:

Manoa Road bridge due to open around October 15. The bridge is done and the roadway is being completed.

Township Commissioners:

W. Wechsler indicated that the Township will be reviewing training qualifications across the Township in the wake of the incident earlier this month. The Township is asking the Bureau of Fire to provide a recommendation for minimum training requirements for fire officers. Baseline requirements for new recruits and training for all members also need to be reviewed. The Township is looking for uniformity throughout the Bureau of Fire.

EMS:

J. McCans indicated there have been several serious medical incidents in the Township this month. J. McCans also suggested that every piece of fire apparatus be equipped with and AED. Please reach out if CPR training is needed. The Township recently switched to MLH which included the benefit of access to NFPA physicals.

Fire Prevention:

No report

Apparatus:

Engine 34-1 is OOS until tomorrow afternoon.

Training:

M. E. Norman reported that we conducted 4 Township-wide drills this year. All classes were very well received. M. E. Norman also extended an invitation for all companies to use the training prop at Manoa. J. Viola provided an update on necessary repairs to the burn tower, which we requested budgeted funding for. Once the budget is approved we can proceed with repairs.

Recruitment and Retention:

F. Hand reported that the HTBF won an award for Recruitment and Retention from the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Our retention award night and community involvement initiatives stood out. The Bureau of Fire can send a representative to Clearwater free of charge to receive the award. Companies may send their representatives out-of-pocket. The Bureau of Fire selected C. Connell to attend on behalf of the Bureau of Fire. F. Hand suggested each company bring their personalized plastic fire helmets to Haverford Township Day. The Bureau of Fire decided to order 1000 HTBF plastic fire helmets. The annual awards ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2020. There are some potential scheduling conflicts with the current date. Please submit your awards to the committee as soon as possible. C. Connell reported on some additional benefits the committee is working on.

Radio:

J. Viola reported the propagation study is complete. The County will be adding directional antennas to existing towers. The new radio system will be a 700-800MHz trunked system. The County wants to shut down the Haverford State site and rely on the Marple site at Broomall Fire Company. There are some doubts that this will provide adequate coverage. The County has assured us that testing will be done prior to making any changes. There are receivers for Sector 7, M7 and Fire 4 on the Manoa tower that get transmitted to the municipal building site before being transmitted out. Implementation of the new radio system is several years away but companies should start saving money for additional radios.

Codes Enforcement:

No report

Old Business:

None

New Business:

M. E. Norman reported that Manoa is getting into the water rescue business. Trained members of the Bureau of Fire are welcome to function with the water rescue team when incidents occur. The Chiefs and Township Manager will meet in closed session for additional discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

M - C. Millay, S - G. Kelly, V - Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Lattanzio

Deputy Chief

Manoa Fire Company