

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING

September 7, 2016

Present – Supervisors Brad Schumacher, Jay Swanson, Tom Rush and Larry Handshoe. Supervisor Jeff Holm absent. Fire Chief Mike Rademacher and Assistant Fire Chief Joe Kiel were also present.

Call to Order – The September 7, 2016 special meeting of Baldwin Township was called to order by Chairman Brad Schumacher at 7:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discuss Fire Department Issues / Concerns with Fire Chief & Assistant Chief

Schumacher pointed out that it has been about 6 months since a follow up meeting has been conducted. Originally there was discussion about having a quarterly review of potential fire department issues.

Water Tender Update – Swanson stated that the water tender is at his place for some work. We have a deck gun and mounting that on the front bumper would be a great idea. The plumbing is there. It is up to the fire department if they want to do it. Rademacher stated that it would provide a lot of options. Kiel stated that it is a little big and it would be nice to see what a smaller one would cost. Swanson stated that he would donate that also. Kiel stated that it came off one of our engines and it was leaking where it pivots.

Water Tender Committee – Schumacher stated that the board talked about doing a new grass rig or a new used rig. Rademacher stated that they are pricing them out and have 2 committees: one for a grass rig and the other for a tender. Discussion on what Becker did with a grass rig. The pump in Grass 2 would need to go. Kiel stated that the only nice thing on that setup is the bed. Prairie Restorations has talked to a firefighter about the rig and they are interested. Schumacher stated that proceeds from the truck went to the Capital Fire Fund. Rademacher agreed that anything we sell should go into capital outlay.

Pool Filling – Schumacher stated that there have been issues with pool filling and there have been instances where the township had to give money back. Rademacher stated that Zimmerman does not fill pools and Princeton was shut down for a while. Everyone is gung-ho to do it in the spring and then interest wanes. Handshoe suggested maybe doing it for one month only. Rush suggested that if we go forward only fill for Baldwin residents. Kiel stated that the price will have to be bumped up as we will have a larger truck. Schumacher stated that if we go forward the rules need to be set tighter. Swanson asked if it was used for training or is it the same guys. Kiel responded that it is the same guys. Rademacher stated that there is a comfort level in getting the trucks into position. Swanson stated that either we are filling pools or not. Do we really want to continue doing this? Rademacher stated that the reason they are using us is we are

considerably less. There was discussion on why Princeton stopped for a while. Kiel stated that the department will address again at their next meeting. Swanson stated that he is looking for consistency. Kiel stated that it is not counting as extra training. Schumacher stated that he thought that was the incentive bonus. Rademacher stated that the incentive is getting familiar with the equipment. Schumacher asked them to come up with a defined plan for 2017.

Rush stated that there are 2 retirements. Gary Taylor and Mike Brinwall. Rademacher stated that they are both at 9 years and they will get the benefit from the date they retire. He is anticipating losing another firefighter in the next 6 months. The department runs smooth at 28 firefighters. Swanson asked if there was a good balance of daytime and nighttime guys with Rademacher replying that it varies by the day. Kiel stated that they would like to do something for the businesses that allow their employees to leave for a call. Schumacher asked how often the board should meet with them with Rademacher replying bi-annually. Rademacher stated that he is strongly leaning to being done in December and step down as chief as he is burned out. Rush stated that the department has switched meetings to every other month instead of monthly. Handshoe stated that he would like to see the agendas. Swanson suggested creating a list of all the monthly meetings then everyone knows when they will be held. Rush asked if the Funfest looked good with Rademacher stating the North AirCare will be there if they are available along with Princeton's smokehouse. The fireman's dance was attended by 80-90 people less than last year.

Adjournment – Handshoe/Rush unanimous to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.



Submitted By: (s/) Cathy Stevens
Clerk/Treasurer
Baldwin Township



Approved By: (s/) Brad Schumacher
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Baldwin Township

9-19-16

Date

Attendees: Judy Thorson