

## Minutes of the Baroda Twp. Fire Board Meeting January 13, 2021

Meeting (via zoom) was called to order at 7:00 PM by Fire Chief Doug DeBest

Present: Larry Klug, David Wolf, Doug DeBest, Dennis Varo, Bob Getz & Christina Price

Minutes of the 10/15/2020 meeting were distributed & accepted as amended by a unanimous vote.

### Old Business-Chief DeBest

- a. The newest Fire Engine has been put into service, we have 5 fully trained drivers with a 6<sup>th</sup> to be added soon.
- b. The process of developing a 2021 Mission Statement for the Department continues, currently they have the selection down to 3 options.

### New Business-Chief DeBest

- a. The 3 new trainees we have are doing well in class & they have good attendance.
- b. Requested, to Bob Getz, that of the Village plans to close Center Street again for future events that the Fire Department be notified because the hydrant on Center Street is important because of the main size it is connected to.
- c. The 2020 year end update was presented with 60 calls for service, 2195 Hours of training, 1618 Hours donated, 2635 miles driven, 132 burn permits issued & 165,593 Face Book Views/Connections.
- d. Auto Aid update
  - i. The Baroda FD auto aid response with Lake Twp FD for car accidents was terminated because it is no longer needed after our new truck went into service, as discussed at the October Fire Board meeting.
  - ii. Lake Township FD terminated Baroda FD auto aid for structure fires, no explanation was given by Lake Twp FD.
  - iii. Lincoln Twp FD terminated Baroda FD auto aid for 2 tankers in non-hydrant areas of Lincoln Twp, no explanation was given by Lincoln Twp FD.
  - iv. Royalton Twp FD has approached Baroda FD regarding an auto aid for 2 tankers in non-hydrant areas of Royalton Twp. Doug hopes to present the request to the Township Board at their next meeting.
- e. 800 MHz radios-Doug received some info from Supervisor Krotzer regarding the County's plans & he has learned that a "mid-range" unit will cost between \$2500-\$3000 each.
- f. A draft of the "Recognition for Fire Fighters" policy was distributed & discussed. After some discussion motion by Wolf, seconded by Getz to approve as written & to forward to the Township Board for their review & approval.
- g. 2020-2021 Budget update- The Fire Maintenance fund has \$31,000+/- & the Fire Equipment Fund has \$2800 +/- remaining in this year's budget we are expected to make it to 3/31/2021.
- h. 2021-2022 Budget Discussion- It was recently learned that the funds for the August 2020 passed millage increase will not be available until the 2022-2023 budget cycle. At our current rate Chief DeBest does not see how to catch up, in 2021-2022 with the maintenance that has been deferred. A suggestion was made to borrow from another fund to cover the 2021-2022 shortfall & then repay the loan with the future approved future millage funds. It was agreed that Christina would speak with the accountant about the feasibility of this loan & that it would need to ultimately be resolved during the Township Budget process next month.
- i. The 2021 Goals for the Department are:

- i. Purchase a washer for turn out gear so the Dept. won't have to goto Oronoko or Lake Township to wash gear.
- ii. Recruit 2 new firefighters
- iii. Train 2 new engine drivers
- iv. Write a Wildland Gear Grant to replace the current Wildland Gear that is 10 years old
- j. Todd Nitz has found a Gas Monitor Grant Possibility from a Pipeline Company. The opportunity will be investigated further.
- k. So far 9 members have received their Covid shots & more are expected soon.

Motion by Wolf, second by Varo to adjourn. Motion passed all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Next Meeting is April 14, 2021 at 7:00 PM