Westfield Fire Committee Meeting Minutes 12-28-08

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 with Chief Snoddy, Rick Robbs, Greg Oakes, Jack Poe, Jim Likley and Kevin Rych present. Also present Dan Grabowski, Mark Williams, Russ Zupanic, Lee Evans, Trustee Tim Kratzer, Twp. Fiscal Officer Martha Evans and Ron Oiler.

The meeting minutes of 11-2-08 and 11-18-08, were approved and signed. The months run and expense reports were reviewed. December bills totaled \$18,622.27 with the largest bills being \$9,821.00 for truck 162 repairs and service, \$3,022.50 for 5 radios, and \$2,590.00 for 5 pagers and chargers.

Chief Snoddy stated that no pagers were out to any enactive members. The light bar on truck 161 was still having electrical problems, Chief felt it could be repaired in house.

Rick Robbs stated that the Village has committed the funding for their portion the purchase of a new fire truck. The Village of Gloria Glens has not made a commitment to contribute to this purchase at this time. Chief Snoddy will be going to their meeting January 7th to explain the needs of the department and importance of the replacement of truck 164. In the past Mayor Dean has offered financial support to the department from their fire levy fund reserves. Jim Likley stated that the township would be holding their year end appropriations meeting 12-29 and that the Trustees would vote on the funding of this purchase. Also that \$75,000.00 would be available from the township fire fund and that the rest would have to come from the general fund to meet our portion of the purchase. Jim stated that due to budget constraints the equipment replacement schedule for the future will have to be evaluated and possibly adjusted.

Jack Poe asked about the State Bid process to ensure compliance in this purchase. Captain Mark Williams (member on truck committee) explained and assurances were given that appropriate steps were taken in this process. The truck would take 9 to 12 months to build.

The Assistant Chief position vacancy was discussed and written recommendations from Assistant Chief Mike Carson and Captain Mark Williams supporting the elimination of this position were sent to FC members prior to the meeting. A new chain of command with one Assistant Chief and two Captains was approved. A motion to vacate the Maintenance Officer position was made by Jim Likley, seconded by Greg Oakes. Discussion was that the responsibilities of weekly inspection of all vehicles could be completed by the members or after each run and repair or maintenance issues would be addressed by the Chief.

Vote; Oakes yes, Robbs yes, Poe yes, Likley yes. With the new command structure pay increases were recommended Assistant Chief \$100.00 annually and Captains \$250.00 annually, making these positions annual compensation \$1,850.00 and \$1,500.00 respectively.

A special meeting was scheduled for Jan. 11th to work on language of Chief Snoddy's employment contract. Next regular meeting scheduled for Feb. 1st. Meeting was adjourned 8:30pm

Submitted by Jim Likley

Approval: Chief Snoddy_____

Approval: Committee Member