

OCQUEOC/BEARINGER FIRE BOARD MEETING

14127 Town Hall Highway
Special Meeting/Budget Hearing

February 28, 2010 7 PM

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Fire board members present were Dan Olmsted, Jerry Counterman, Pam Schaedig, Nancy Shutes and Beverly Rossetto. Ocqueoc Township board members present were Jerry Counterman, Pam Schaedig, Val Jaroch, Delores Merchant and Jeff Foster. Bearinger Township board members present were Ted Slawinski, Gale Phelps and Nancy Shutes. Bearinger board members who were absent were Patricia Augustine and Kay Dowker.

The meeting was called to order by Dan Olmsted at 7 PM followed by the pledge. This joint meeting was held to discuss the Fire Department budget for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

Financial Officer Pam Schaedig went over the proposed budget. There were many cuts to be made before the budget could be approved. The proposed budget totaled \$155,210. There is \$65, 842.06 remaining from last year in the checking account. Irv Dedow thinks it is outrageous to keep that much money, without interest, in the checking account.

New turnout gear needs to be purchased. Pat Silver stated that that turnout gear needs to be fitted to each individual. This is why turnout gear needs to be budgeted every year.

After much discussion the board decided to go line item by line item to trim the proposed budget. Ted Slawinski stated that the budget should be no more than \$95,000. There has to be an audit this year so the \$2,000 had to remain. Gale Phelps questioned the Deputy Chief's \$1,000 pay. This is a 400% raise. Chief Yaklin stated that Deputy Merchant has done most of the paperwork for the MIOSHA inspection and that this raise does not seem out of line for the amount of work involved. Shutes thinks that the \$3,500 amount in miscellaneous for the volunteers is too much. This was cut to \$2,500. Under Capital Outlay/Equipment there were many cuts that needed to be made. The ROV and trailer were removed. The amount proposed for Ice Rescue was decreased \$1,000. Extrication Equipment was cut to \$10,470 and the Thermal Imaging camera was eliminated. This brought Capital Outlay down to \$50, 270.

The proposed budget started at \$155, 210. After many cuts and eliminations the proposed budget was \$105, 770. Once all items from the 2010-2011 budget have been purchased there will be over \$20,000 left in the checking account. By subtracting this \$20,000 from the \$105, 770 the amount will be \$85, 770. This is below what Slawinski suggested. Irene Seeyle wanted to know if the remaining money is split 50/50 per township or if it is divided according to taxable value which means Bearinger Township pays more. She thinks it's more fair to go by taxable value because Bearinger contributed more money in the first place.

Jerry Counterman made a motion to approve \$105, 500 for the new budget with the

money, in the neighborhood of \$20,000 to be subtracted before the beginning of the new fiscal year. Pam Schaedig seconded the motion. A roll call vote of the Fire Board was taken. Beverley Rossetto, yes. Nancy Shutes, yes. Dan Olmsted, yes. Pam Schaedig, yes. Jerry Counterman, yes. All Fire Board members were in favor so the motion carried.

Jerry Counterman made a motion for both Ocqueoc and Bearinger Township Boards to approve the Fire Department budget. Dan Olmsted seconded the motion. All members of both boards were in favor so the motion carried. Karen Silver questioned whether it was legal for the township boards to vote on the finalized Fire Department budget at this joint meeting. Glenn Lunceford, Bearinger Township Deputy Supervisor, stated that he called MTA and was told that a vote could be taken at this Special Joint Meeting.

Ted Slawinski, Bearinger Township Supervisor, made a motion for the Bearinger Township board to approve the \$105,500 Fire Department budget with the money left over in the checking account that will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000 to be subtracted before the beginning of the new fiscal year which begins on April 1st, 2011. Clerk Shutes seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Supervisor Slawinski, yes. Clerk Shutes, yes. Treasurer Phelps, yes. Trustee Augustine, absent. Trustee Dowker, absent. All board members present were in favor so the motion carried.

Pam Schaedig, Ocqueoc Township Clerk, made a motion for Ocqueoc Township Board to approve the \$105,500 Fire Department budget with the money left over from the checking account that will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000 to be subtracted before the beginning of the new fiscal year which begins on April 1st, 2011. Treasurer Delores Merchant seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Supervisor Counterman, yes. Clerk Schaedig, yes. Treasurer Merchant, yes. Trustee Jaroch, yes. Trustee Foster, yes. All board members were in favor so the motion carried.

Once the left over money in the checking account is subtracted from the \$105,500 budget, the amount will be around \$85,500. The April 7th Fire Board meeting will show exactly what was subtracted. Some of the cuts will be put on a "wish list" for future budget considerations.

Olmsted made a motion to adjourn. Shutes seconded motion. All in favor so the meeting adjourned at 9:07 PM. The next meeting is on April 7th, 2011 at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Shutes, Fire Board Secretary