

Ross-Augusta Fire Board Minutes

May 4, 2023

Members Present: Jeff Brink - Village of Augusta, Syndee Genung - Ross Township, Diana Langshaw - Ross Township, Archie Silkworth - Village of Augusta, Mike Waldorf - Member-at-Large. Guests: Fire Chief Doug Bogema, Deputy Chief Rob Leatherman, Assistant Chief Jake Leatherman, Captain Brandon Shirley, and Val Silkworth - Village of Augusta (Alternate).

The meeting was called to order by Chair D. Langshaw at 5:33 p.m.

M. Waldorf moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by A. Silkworth. Motion **Passed**.

A. Silkworth moved to approve the February 16, 2023 minutes. Seconded by J. Brink. Motion **Passed**.

There was no public comment.

Old Business

In April a great recognition meal and ceremony was held including promotions and Firefighters coming off probation. There were about 40 in attendance.

Equipment Update: Chief D. Bogema gave an update of equipment. Attached.

Additional Comments:

- Physicals for 10 Firefighters will be done in June.
- There is a new Firefighter - B. Shirley is moving forward to hire him.
- ARPA Funds – We have about \$25,000 available through 2023. (\$5,000 remaining from the 2022 allocation and \$20,000 for 2023). Purchased to date are new battery fans and Thermal Imaging Cameras. Requests for 2023 funds have been turned in for Township Board approval. Attached
- Salary Resolutions – Since there are no lieutenants and no one in training to fill the position(s) it was decided to increase the pay of the Deputy Chief,

Assistant Chief and the Captain with the funds that have been set aside for Lieutenants.

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It was noted that the chain of command hasn't changed, just titles.

Figures were not available so a special meeting will be held to make resolutions and cover any other business as needed.

-Repairs at the South Station (Village of Augusta) were discussed at our last meeting. Fire Chief Bogema was not able to attend the Village meeting and the Village Board is discussing funding options for needed repairs. Jeff Heppler, Village Manager is also reviewing the repairs needed.

-By-Law Update - The official By-Law update was in the board packet handout. Attached. The updated document will be retyped and sent out.

-The Fire Mileage expires in December, 2024. We need to start discussion of future needs as a Fire Mileage should be on the November, 2024 ballot.

Any Other Old Business:

Rob and Jake Leatherman each discussed items (training, equipment, etc.) that are needed for the department. It was discussed that these expenditures are requested for the 2024 ARPA funds presently allocated for 2024. Attached.

-M. Waldorf moved to approve a credit card for Fire Department purchases.

Seconded by A Silkworth. Motion **Passed**.

New Business

All positions of the Fire Board are filled and an updated list was handed out which

Includes the term of each position. Attached.

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Fire Board Elections for the 2023-24 year:

Chair - S. Genung moved to nominate Diana Langshaw and a unanimous ballot be cast. Seconded by M Waldorf. Motion **Passed**.

Vice Chair - D. Langshaw moved to nominate Jeff Brink and a unanimous ballot be cast. Seconded by S. Genung. Motion **Passed**.

Secretary - J. Brink moved to nominate Syndee Genung and a unanimous ballot be cast. Seconded by M. Waldorf. J. Leatherman will continue to help take notes for the meetings. Motion **Passed**.

Coming department events (proceeds benefit Community Fire Prevention and children's activities):

-Car Wash-Saturday, May 6

-Augusta Village Car Show, August 1

-Halloween Haunted House, October

-130th Anniversary of the Augusta Fire Department with the Village of Augusta
V. Silkworth noted date and details are being discussed for the summer of 2023.

-Member Comments: None

A. Silkworth moved to adjourn. Seconded by J. Brink. Motion **Passed**.