

BALDWIN TOWNSHIP SPECIAL MEETING

February 16, 2011

Present – Supervisors Larry Handshoe, Jeff Holm, Tom Rush and Jay Swanson.

Call to Order – The Baldwin Township February 16, 2011 special meeting was called to order by Jeff Holm at 7:05 pm

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

Approve/Disapprove Economic Development Task Force Event – Swanson/Rush unanimous to approve the Economic Development Task Force event. The anticipated cost is \$800 plus advertising costs.

Discuss Fire Department Management Topics & Issues – A special meeting was scheduled to discuss topics and issues that may be of concern to the management of the fire department. Chief Rademacher indicated that things are going very smoothly when asked by Swanson if there is anything the Baldwin Town Board could be doing better to help.

Swanson said there is a lot of debt service coming due in 2012 that will be touching the whole township including the fire department. Rush further stated that goals and objectives are being implemented that will include the E3 committee, more training, researching grants, etc. that will be working for the fire department. He would like to see a quarterly review to see if goals are being met.

It was announced that Jeremy Evans has resigned from the fire department.

Engine 3 is awaiting equipment and parts in order to make it a viable back up truck for the fire department. Phil Holland has put in a tremendous amount of time with engine 3. Rademacher would like to see him publically acknowledged. Also to acknowledge Julius Dorweiler who put a lot of work in engine 3.

The paperwork is ready to be submitted for the ISO rating process. A response should be back within 30 days. Rademacher is hoping to have automatic aid up and going February 1st.

The Town Board made a decision to decommission engine 2.

There is no basis to the rumors regarding deviations from the firefighter handbook concerning early probation removal.

Swanson stated that he would like to see a previous allegation of a threat investigated and would like to get an answer within a couple of weeks.

Since there is a transition from the previous fire department management to the new management, Swanson said he would like to see all personnel files from the fire department to the town hall. He said it would make things cleaner and easier, and would be extremely helpful. Rademacher has mixed feeling since he would prefer to have the records easily assessable. He said that the office has been rekeyed, and a locking file cabinet has been purchased. Perhaps the fire department could keep copies of records, and the township clerk would maintain the original.

A few months back the administration came to the township board regarding hiring somebody outside the department. The chief and assistant chief have been attempting at this time to get by. There are only a couple of disputes over the minutes. They are always unofficial. Rush indicated that the department may look into tape recording the meetings so that disputes cannot arise. It does seem that the general paperwork and filing are under control.

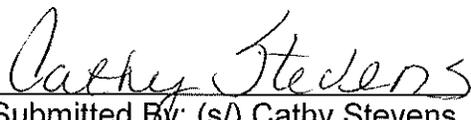
Rademacher said that he does feel that the morale has much improved. Three officers ran unopposed, the firefighters are starting to hang out after calls and a woman's fire club was started. Different events are being planning, and in his opinion this brings unity within the department. The relationships with neighboring departments are in the process of being repaired by frequent communicated and mutual training. Not only is the management working with each other; the firefighters are also working with each other.

There was discussion regarding automatic mutual aid and equipment purchases.

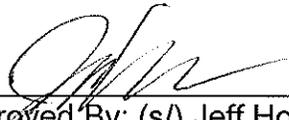
Since the firefighter handbook is a continual work in progress, Rademacher asked the board to take into consideration a couple of small things:

- Probationary firefighters now are required to wear a red shirt which singles them out. They already can be distinguished on the scene by their helmets.
- In the past it was allowed to hire people who worked within the community. In the new handbook that was eliminated.
- The officer meeting is the 4th Tuesday of the month; the business meeting is the 1st Sunday of the month. Would like to see the officer meeting changed to the first Sunday of the month.

Adjourn – Swanson/Rush unanimous to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.



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



Approved By: (s/) Jeff Holm
Chairman, Board of Supervisors
Baldwin Township