

MILTON JOINT FIRE COMMISSION MTG.

Wednesday January 16, 2019

Location: Milton City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Comm. J. Jennings, Comm. B. Drew, Comm. B. Meyer, Comm. L. Clark, Comm. J. Zajac, Comm. T. Rusch, Chief Ponkauskas, J. Lukas, Deputy Chief C. Lukas, Battalion Chief Mory

1. Call to Order and confirmation of appropriate meeting notice at 7:10 p.m. by Commissioner Chairperson B. Meyer.
2. Approval of Agenda: On a motion by Commissioner J. Zajac, a second by Commissioner B. Drew, to approve agenda, motion carried.
3. Approval of December 5, 2018 minutes: On a motion by Commissioner L. Clark, a second by Commissioner J. Jennings, to approve the December 5, 2018 minutes, motion carried (Commissioner B. Drew abstaining).
4. Public Participation:
 - Public Comment by Deputy Chief C. Lukas. Deputy Chief Lukas stated to the Joint Fire Commission members that he believes they should have say in the process of hiring of a Fire Chief. And inquired if they were going to request a "seat at the table".
5. Old Business:
6. New Business:
 - a. Discussion and Possible action regarding approval of Deputy Chief Appointment:
 - Interim Chief Ponkauskas stated with the recent resignation of 2 Battalion Chiefs, he would recommend to eliminate all Battalion Chief positions. Chief Ponkauskas stated that a third Deputy Chief would better serve the needs of the Department.
 - On a motion by Commissioner J. Jennings, a second by Commissioner T. Rusch, to approve restructuring of staff, to eliminate Battalion Chief positions and add a third Deputy Chief position, motion carried.

- On a motion by Commissioner J. Jennings, a second by Commissioner J. Zajac to promote Battalion Chief P. Mory to the open Deputy Chief position, motion carried.

b. Discussion and Possible action regarding Paramedic Program Upgrade/Fire Department Operations:

- Deputy Chief C. Lukas presented the Joint Fire Commission with an overview of the Operations of the Fire Department (structure/operations). Battalion Chief P. Mory presented the Joint Fire Commission with an explanation of the Paramedic Program Upgrade and what it means to the Department and Community.

c. Discussion and Possible action regarding Intergovernmental Agreement and MOU with Janesville:

- Commissioner J. Jennings suggested that the Commission needs to re-examine goals within the MOU with Janesville. Commissioner L. Clark stated that she believes there has been a lot of savings with this setup/MOU with Janesville.
- Deputy Chief Lukas stated that parts of the Agreement/MOU work and other parts need to be worked on.
- Commissioner J. Jennings and Commissioner T. Rusch agreed that a certain number of hours for shared administration (Fire Chief) needs to be looked into.
- On a motion by Commissioner B. Drew, a second by Commissioner J. Jennings, to form a subcommittee (Commissioner B. Meyer from Township and Commissioner T. Rusch from City of Milton) and to meet with Administrative staff for discussion, then present at February Commission Meeting, motion carried.
- On a motion by Commissioner J. Jennings, a second by Commissioner T. Rusch, to delegate authority for Commissioner Chairperson B. Meyer to contact the President of the Janesville Police and Fire Commission and City Manager M. Freitag for discussion and possible recommendations on hiring new Fire Chief, motion carried.

- It was requested to see if Attorney Brooke Joos would be available for next Commission Meeting. Any questions for Attorney Brooke need to be sent to J. Lukas by the end of January.

7. Chief's Report:

- Budget: Discussion on invoices
- Interim Chief Ponkauskas stated that J. Lukas has put together a binder that will be given to new members of the Joint Fire Commission. He asked that each Commissioner member take a look at it and any comments or suggests be given to J. Lukas.
- The Department responded to 68 calls in the month of December
- Training: December Training consisted of Paramedic Advanced Skills and Ice Water Rescue. Upcoming training will include: Rescue Task Force, CPR Training, Mark VonAppen Seminar and house burn.

8. Presidents Report:

- The Association will once again be holding a raffle. The raffle will take place on July 14, 2019. Only 1500 tickets will be sold. Tickets are for sale at this time.
- Elections were held in January:
 - S. Genung and B. Barnes – Board of Directors
 - J. Lukas – Vice President
 - B. Kessenich - Secretary

9. General Items:

- Milton-Milton Township Fire Department is sponsoring Mark VonAppen at the Milton High Auditorium on Saturday February 16, 2019 all Commissioners are welcome to attend.

- Commissioner B. Meyer stated that "Fireworks on Ice" will be held on January 19th with an alternate date of January 26th, 2019. It will not be on the ice but rather in field on Hwy 59. (2p-8p)

10. Adjournment:

- Next Scheduled meeting February 20, 2019 7:00 p.m. at the Milton Township Hall. Commissioner L. Clark moved to adjourn the January 16, 2019 Joint Fire Commission meeting at approximately 9:41 p.m., Commissioner J. Jennings seconded the motion and carried.

(Submitted by: J. Lukas)