

WINDSOR TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

August 11, 2021 Continuation of July 19, 2021 Recessed Meeting

1. The recessed meeting of the Windsor Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chairperson Kathy Kerchner. Introductions were made.

Those present: Kathy Kerchner, Dean Heffner, Rodney Sechrist (6:45), Jennifer Gunnet, Kipp Allison, Barry Miller, Dave Stump, Jordan Frey, James Pritchard, Scott Frederick, Scott Gingrich and Dave Rittenhouse.

2. Scott Gingrich advised that at the last contract meeting there was a discussion that when using an equal percentage increase for each fire company it was creating a wider gap in funding between the fire companies.

Their proposal is to provide a one-time payment to SAFER and Laurel Fire Companies in 2021. The one-time increase for SAFER would be \$20,000 and the one-time increase for Laurel would be \$15,000. Then, beginning in 2022 the increases would be as follows: SAFER – 3%, Laurel – 9%, Yorkana – 5% and Alliance – 3%. He noted that these increases have been agreed upon by all of the fire companies.

The next item discussed was payment for a paid driver for each fire company for each year of the contract. The Association is withdrawing that request as they felt that this was unfair to the Township. They are planning to go to the other municipalities that they serve to request funds for a paid driver. It was noted that SAFER already has a paid driver for certain hours during the week. For the balance of the time, the volunteer members sign up for the hours that they are available to drive apparatus.

They are requesting that the retention funds be increased from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for each fire company for each year of the contract. This way the retention funds could be used for either retention and/or a paid driver. There was a discussion on how the distributions to the fire companies would be made and how the retention funds would be used and tracked. It was noted that York Township provides retention funds on a quarterly basis. The fire companies report back to them quarterly on how the funds are being used. It was noted that sometimes the retention funds are accumulated to be used for larger ticket items such as their appreciation dinner, uniforms, etc. A program will need to be created to regulate the spending of the retention funds. Mr. Gingrich added that the Association would draft regulations for the paid driver and reimbursement.

Scott Gingrich noted that their proposal over the five (5) years of the contract would be well under the cost of paid fire fighters for a year.

Mrs. Gunnet advised that the current contracts expired in February of this year but the funds are already determined until the end of the year. She was unsure of why that time

frame was originally decided upon. She asked if it would be acceptable to have the contracts run from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026. All were agreeable to this.

The next step was discussed. Mrs. Gunnet will update the spreadsheets that the Board had been given to reflect the one-time payment to SAFER and Laurel, the withdrawal of the paid driver, the increase of the retention funds and the proposed yearly increases that the Association had provided. The Board will then have the information to make a decision to accept the proposed agreement or make a counter offer.

3. Mrs. Kerchner asked if there were any public comments. There were none.
4. Mrs. Kerchner asked if there were any Supervisor comments. There were none.
5. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer L. Gunnet  
Secretary