

MINUTES
NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
NLT FIRE COMPANIES
April 6, 2022

The advertised Joint Meeting of the North Lebanon Township Board of Supervisors commenced at 6:00 PM at the Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, Lebanon, PA with the following people present:

In person:	Ed Brensinger	Chairman
	Gary Heisey	Vice-Chairman
	Arden Snook Sr	Treasurer
	Tim Knight	Chief of Police
	Cheri Grumbine	Township Manager
	Mike Leonard	Ebenezer Fire Co
	Wesley Keener	Ebenezer Fire Co
	Randy Rhodes	Ebenezer Fire Co
	Brian Vragovich	Glenn-Lebanon Fire Co
	Gerry Burke	Glenn-Lebanon Fire Co
	Jeremy Wenrich	Rural Security Fire Co
	Steven Matthews	Rural Security Fire Co
	Allen Firestine	Rural Security Fire Co
	Donald Steiner Sr.	Weavertown Fire Co
	Donald Steiner Jr.	Weavertown Fire Co
	Michael Michaels	Weavertown Fire Co
	Greg Smith	FASP
	Greg Hower	FASP
	Kara Summers	FASP

The meeting was called to order and the pledge to the flag was made.

FASP DISCUSSIONS

A.) Transports and lift assist calls to Fire Department

Several topics were discussed between the representatives from First Aid and Safety Patrol (FASP), Fire Chiefs, Board of Supervisors, Manager Grumbine, and Chief Knight.

Transports/Lift Assists Highlights:

- FASP is now fully staffed with 150 employees.
- A total of 870 FASP transports for 2021. There were 33 times they reached out to the North Lebanon Township Fire Departments for assistance. They are contracted with Well Span and the VA Hospital for these transports.
- No reimbursement is available for the fire companies. Fire Companies stated it is not the financial reimbursement, but manpower that is of concern.

- Fire Chiefs expressed callouts for lift-assists are wearing down their few volunteers remaining with their respective departments and reduction of available staff when there is a fire call at the same time, as a transport lift assist.
- Fire Chiefs expressed their personnel are not trained for lift-assists. A lot of members are older and should not be handling a 450-pound patient for a lift-assist call.
- Fire Departments will certainly help when they are called but requested that they be helpers and not left to do the lifting while the FASP staff watch. This will be corrected by FASP.
- Fire Chiefs discouraged when called out and arrive only to find another FASP unit is on site and the patient is already loaded/unloaded. Cancellations will be made for these situations.
- Fire Chiefs asked to be notified prior to scheduled transports to/from the home.
- Chief Knight indicated that PD could also provide lift-assist, if available.
- Notification to be sent to Fire Chiefs and PD when FASP has a protocol change such as neck collar requirement, board usage, etc. Email listing to be sent to Mr. Smith at FASP by fire departments, so he can email out protocol changes.

EMA COORDINATOR- STEVE BEARD

Mr. Beard was not in attendance tonight.

FIRE CHIEF DISCUSSIONS

A.) Redo Call Boxes Discussions

- Call boxes are not coming to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Entered directly by Lebanon County DES.

B.) Tracking of Fire Hydrant Usage on Monthly Report

- Township is charged \$88,000 annually by CoLA. CoLA states they lost over a billion gallons of water that were not accounted for and billed in 2021.
- Fire companies tapping into any North Lebanon Township fire hydrant are now required to document and note on their monthly reports. Report to list location of fire hydrant access and estimated quantity of water used during the incident.
- The Board requested the township fire companies provide them with a 6-month listing of locations and estimated usage where a fire company tapped into a fire hydrant so that the Township and CoLA can figure out an agreeable fee to pay. This would also include private hydrants. Report to be provided to Board in July of 2022.
- Fire Chiefs requested an additional dry fire hydrant to be located at Lion's Lake that would be easily accessible without having to park on the street. Suggested near main entrance along Water Street.
- County-wide map for fill sites.
- No fire companies provide the service to fill pools.
- Fire Chiefs will be requested to review Land Development Plans for fire hydrant locations and accessibility.
- Fire Chiefs to report to Township when they encounter a private hydrant that does not work. Question raised if any of the hydrants work in Lincoln Mobile Home Park. There is a private fire hydrant located behind Walmart Supercenter that is knocked over every other year.

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- Request that CoLA flow test and color code hydrants to know when it is private or public hydrant and how much pressure a hydrant has available for them to use.
 - Fire hydrant without a location flag - notify the township to install a flag.
 - Act 108-2020 – Bob Longley discussions with Manager Grumbine. Revised Resolution by Board recognizing participatory members and coverage during the non-emergency event not just during the planning phase.
 - Must have listing of non-emergency events at beginning of each year per Act 108-2020.
 - Knox Box – Forms to be updated annually.
 - Safer Grant Program at South Lebanon Township. Stipend program for fire company firefighters responding to calls as an incentive for recruitment and retention program. Set amount of dollars available each month and calculate based on the number of qualified participants during that month. In South Lebanon Township, all four fire companies are under one department. NLT departments need volunteers, as active firefighter members are dwindling in numbers. The time of 2:00-4:00pm is the most challenging time to respond to a call. This is due to the 3:00pm shift change, as a full-time employee with their employer.
 - Fire Chiefs suggested township hire a Fire Administrator to oversee the four township fire companies. Handle paperwork, other administrative duties, grants, Knox® box program, stipend program, EMA Coordinator position, etc.
 - Suggested a class be made available at Lebanon County Career & Technical Center to gain interest by the high school students and introduce them to the firefighting service in their community and provide training.
 - Suggestion for Fire Chiefs to plan township-wide training events – one time/month.
 - Possibility of a township-wide paging system for all calls.
 - Fire Chiefs suggested adoption of a township ordinance to permit billing for services like in North Cornwall Township.
 - Fuels slips due in the administrative office end of each month.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Erika Sheibley
Recording Secretary