

TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP FIRE COMMISSION  
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
FEBRUARY 14, 2019

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The February 2019 Regular Business Meeting of the Tobyhanna Township Fire Commission (“Commission”) was held on February 14, 2019, at the Tobyhanna Township Government Center Building, 105 Government Center Way, Pocono Pines, Pennsylvania, 18350.

Present are George Planchock, John Holahan, III, John Kerrick, and John Jablowski Jr. David Carbone is absent. A quorum is present.

1. George Planchock calls the meeting to order at 6:07 PM
2. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.
3. John Kerrick motions to approve the January 10, 2019 Reorganizational and Regular Business Meeting. John Holahan seconds. George Planchock noticed an error under the Fire Commission Report section under sub-section b. He request the phrase “transfer station” be switched to “Fire/EMS station”. Crystal Butler makes note of the change. Vote: all in favor, motion carries.
4. OLD BUSINESS
  - a. INCENTIVE PROGRAM DISCUSSION: John Jablowski discusses the Firefighter Service Stipend Program (FSSP). He explains the Service Stipend, and the Uniform Cleaning Allowance that make up the program, and the criteria to be eligible for both. Brendon Carroll asks about working it into the budget’s timeline at the end of the year. Ed Tutrone states an estimate can be given to the Board of Supervisors early enough to be included in the budget process. A contingency percentage can be included in the calculation of the cost. John Holahan mentions that a preliminary amount for the stipend program can be generated and used for budgeting purposes until accurate numbers are presented to the Commission by the Fire Company. The report of eligible members and cost would be presented to the Commission by the November meeting for review and then forwarded to the Board of Supervisors.

John Jablowski explains that it would be two separate line items in the Fire Department Budget and the checks for these stipends would be issued separately. Ed Tutrone explains that keeping it separate and below a certain threshold should prevent the Township from having to issue 1099’s and changing the volunteer firefighters’ status. John Holahan and John Kerrick recommend having legal counsel and auditors review the program to see if it can be implemented.

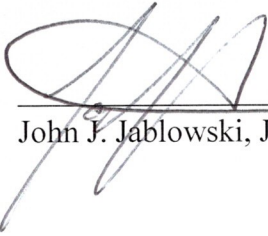
John Kerrick motions to approve the FSSP and forward it to the Board of Supervisors with the condition that the solicitor and auditor reviews the program. John Holahan seconds. Vote: all in favor, motions carries. The Commission discusses reporting measures of the program and the resolution process moving forward.
  - b. COVERAGE FOR POCONO SUMMIT AREA DISCUSSION: The Commission discusses emergency service coverage for Pocono Summit area. John Kerrick recommends inviting Bill Wiemer to the next Fire Commission meeting to discuss action moving forward.

5. FIRE COMMISSION REPORT: -none
6. Public Comment – none.
7. Meeting adjourned at 7:17PM.
8. The Fire Commission enters executive session at 7:18

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Minutes recorded by Crystal Butler

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'JJJ', is written over a horizontal line.

John J. Jablowski, Jr., Secretary