

Notes from the February 17, 2010 Meeting of the Avon Fire Board

February 17, 2010

Avon City Hall

Call to Order: The meeting of the Avon Township Supervisors was called to order by Fire Chief Eric Linn at 7:00 P.M.

Introductions: Those present introduced themselves. There were representatives from the Fire Department (*i.e.*, Eric Linn, Chris Pfleuger, Cory Nellis), City of Avon (*i.e.*, John Grutsch, Jodi Austing-Traut), Colledgeville Township (Bob Simon, John Hanson), and Avon Township (*i.e.*, LeRoy Gondringer, John Merdan, Richard Bresnahan).

Minutes: Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written.

Financial Report: Cory Nellis presented spreadsheets documenting the fireman's relief association fund and bank account information. The current account balance is \$336,379.06.

Contract Discussion: There is a proposal to change the way that local units pay for fire service. Currently, Avon City, Avon Township and Colledgeville Township pay based on the hours of service. Historically, this is typically about 40% - Avon City, 40% - Avon Township and 20% - Colledgeville. Simon reported that there are various ways in which fire bills are determined (*i.e.*, pay as a percentage of taxable property values, consideration for farmland vs. city, units for homes vs. businesses). The new contract proposes to change the billing to include a factor based on property value. Avon City supports this as "fair." Both townships preferred to maintain billing as is currently being done (by service hours). Colledgeville Township voiced strong opposition to basing the fire contribution based on property values because of the higher market values of the lake property common in their township. They would be required to significantly increase their contribution under a plan based on property value, while Avon City would decrease roughly the same amount. Avon Township contribution would increase slightly. Grutsch stated that the townships should bear a larger burden because the fire department needed to purchase tankers and brush rigs not used by the City. However, Merdan pointed out that a recent cemetery fire in the City required this equipment. The current formula for calculating contributions is based on data from two years ago. It was agreed that this should be as current as possible. At least one additional meeting will be required before the new contract will be agreed upon/signed.

Adjournment: The members from Avon Township left the meeting at 8:00 PM to attend a regularly scheduled township meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Saupe, Clerk
Avon Township