

Genoa Township Fire/Rescue/EMS Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

March 5, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair, John McHale.
 - a. Attendance was recorded – Committee members present in person were Tracy Damschroder, Jeff Gale, Fred Johnson, Duane Knauer, John McHale, Frank Michell, Tom Munley, George Schultz, Chris Chesson, Tammy Sroufe, Trustee Connie Goodman, and Fire Chief Joe Ponzi. Effective February 5, 2024, Mary Fehskens has resigned from the Committee. There were no virtual attendees.
 - b. Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from January 9, 2024, by George Schultz. Fred Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.
 - c. Last month's meeting originally scheduled for February 6th was cancelled.

2. Update from Chief Ponzi.
 - a. Run Stats Review
 - i. Reviewed data for January & February 2024.
 - ii. EMS run stats are a little low due to Primary Medic 441 being out of service for several weeks with a blown turbo.
 - iii. Discussed potentially adding response times (ideally by area of the Township) to the run stat reports.
 - b. GTFD Update (New Ladder Truck, SCBA's, Exhaust Removal System)
 - i. Delivery of the Ladder Truck purchased from Sutphen is still on track for October 2024 delivery.
 - ii. SCBA's & Exhaust Removal System – working on bid documents. Will need review by the Prosecutors Office prior to issuing for bid.
 - c. Barn Fire on January 28 (coordination, water supply, obstacles).
 - i. The preliminary cause of the fire at the property that burnt down a barn on Plumb Road was due to an electrical failure.

- ii. GTFD provided coordination between several jurisdictions during the event.
- iii. Had to use a number of water trucks that filled from a fire hydrant ~ 1500 ft away from the fire to supply water to the fire trucks. The trucks were needed due to the relatively small, 4" diameter, line that supplied water to the hydrant.
- iv. There were no injuries, but some animals were lost in the fire.

3. Plan for East Side Sub Station.

- a. No action at this time.

4. Update on the Proposed Fire/Rescue/EMS Survey Questions - Tom Munley & Chelsea Fuller.

- a. The revised draft survey has been reviewed by Chief Ponzi. The Chief's comments will be incorporated and the "final draft" will be distributed to the Fire/Rescue/EMS Citizen Advisory Committee for discussion during the 4/2/2024 Committee meeting.

5. Priorities for this Committee for 2024-2025.

- a. Open discussion on areas where the Committee can provide support to the GTFD.

6. Westerville/Harlem Township proposed merger.

- a. Harlem Township is concerned about potential annexation by neighboring cities and approached Westerville City Council to propose the merger to preclude any annexation from happening.
- b. City of Westerville and Harlem Township voters must approve during the November '2024 election for the merger to go through.
- c. Harlem Township has a fire department which would come under Westerville's fire department if the merger happens.

7. Announcements.

- a. Next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2024..
- b. Election for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary will be held during the April 2nd meeting. Terms are for one year (April 2024 - March

2025). Committee Vice Chair, Chris Chesson, will conduct the April 2nd meeting.

- c. Remaining meeting dates for 2024 (Typically the first Tuesday of the Month) April 2, May 7, June 4, July 9, August (cancel due to National Night Out), September 3, October 1, November 12 (due to Election Day 11/5), December (cancelled due to toy drive).

8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.