

Genoa Township Fire/Rescue/EMS Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

July 11, 2023 – Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by John McHale.
 - a. Attendance was recorded – Committee members present in person were Chris Chesson, Tracy Damschroder, Mary Fehskens, Chelsea Fuller, Fred Johnson, Duane Knauer, John McHale, Tom Munley, George Schultz, and Joe Ponzi (Fire Chief).

Frank Michell attended virtually.

Absent were Mark Antonetz, Reid Caryer , Jeff Gale, and Tammy Sroufe.

The guest attending the meeting in person was Paul Keene.
 - b. Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from June 6, 2023, by George Schultz. Duane Knauer seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Update from Chief Ponzi.
 - a. Run Stats Review.
 - i. Reviewed data for July 2023.
 - ii. About average/normal expected with very slight increase in transports.

 - b. Grant Applications (ARP, AFG, SAFER).
 - i. AFG grant has been received. GTFD was awarded funding to replace all of the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and face masks and also funding for the vehicle exhaust removal system. Was not successful in the request for the new station breathing air compressor.
 1. GTFD Formed a committee chaired by Battalion Chief, Brady Johnson, to evaluate SCBA's and associated

equipment (face pieces, masks, integrated technology packages, etc.) from vendors. Scott ([3M Scott Fire & Safety](#)) and MSA ([MSA Safety | United States](#)) are the largest vendors for this equipment and have significant resources for follow-up support.

- a. GTFD currently uses Scott SCBA equipment that was placed in service in 2004 with good support.
 - b. Currently anticipating lead time/delivery to be ~4-6 months after placing an order.
2. A hose-based direct source capture vehicle exhaust removal system will be installed with the AFG grant funding.
 - a. Hoses will attach to the vehicle exhausts with magnetic rings/couplings that attach and detach easily. Sensors will activate on backpressure to start fan(s) to pull the exhaust fumes through the system to the outside.
 - b. Will be getting “turnkey” bids for the exhaust system with electrical work by a different contractor.
 - ii. As reported during the 6/6/2023 Committee meeting, received ARP approval for funding mental health/wellness checks.
 - iii. No response yet for the SAFER Grant application. Indications are that the request made it through the “first step” in the review and approval process.
- c. New Ladder Truck.
 - i. The chassis is in production.
 - ii. A portal is being put together for GTFD to track progress on the new ladder truck by Sutphen.
3. Lithium-ion batteries.
 - i. Discussed ways to get the safety information that was posted on the GTFD Facebook page to residents that are not Facebook users.
4. Comments / Questions from Committee.
 - a. GTFD is currently hiring (genoatwp.com/departments/fire_and_ems/index.php).



Full testing services for the position of firefighter/paramedic are administered on behalf of Genoa Township by National Testing Network, Inc. Complete an application and schedule a test at www.nationaltestingnetwork.com Select Firefighter and sign up for the Genoa Township Fire Department.

- i. Chief Ponzi explained the qualifications and hiring process (genoatwp.com/departments/human_resources/fire_employment_procedure.php).
 - ii. GTFD is competing with other area Fire & EMS Departments for hiring qualified candidates. GTFD has a strong overall salary and benefits package.
 - b. Demolition of the partial demolition of the old police station is expected to start soon.
 - c. Installation of additional security cameras at the Fire Station has been completed. Monitoring areas including where GTFD employees park their vehicles when at work.
 - d. Discussed Delaware Gazette article dated 7/7/2023 about Genoa Township's Advisory Committees including Fire/Rescue/EMS Citizen Advisory Committee ([Genoa's advisory committees active - Delaware Gazette \(delgazette.com\)](http://delgazette.com)). Content in the article is apparently acquired from the committee minutes that are posted on the Genoa Township website (https://www.genoatwp.com/government/boards_committees_and_commission/index.php).
5. Announcements.
- a. Next Meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2023 (10/3, 11/7).

b. National Night Out - August 1 - at McNamara Park from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (genoatwp.com/about/national_night_out_2.php).

6. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.