

Genoa Township Fire/Rescue/EMS Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

September 5, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Chair, John McHale.
 - a. Attendance was recorded – Committee members present in person were Tracy Damschroder, Mary Fehskens, Chelsea Fuller, Jeff Gale, Fred Johnson, John McHale, Tom Munley, George Schultz, Tammy Sroufe, Trustee Mark Antonetz, and Fire Chief Joe Ponzi.

Absent were Chris Chesson, Duane Knauer, Reid Caryer, and Frank Michell.

The guest attending the meeting in person was Paul Keene.

There were no virtual attendees.
 - b. Motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from July 11, 2023, by George Schultz. Fred Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. Update from Chief Ponzi.
 - a. Run Stats Review
 - i. Reviewed data for August 2023.
 - ii. All stats are in line with historical figures.
 - b. Holiday event for the Township
 - i. Holiday event for the Township is under consideration. More information will be shared at the next meeting. There may be a need for assistance from Committee members willing to volunteer.
 - c. New Ladder Truck update
 - i. The fire truck manufacturer, Sutphen, has created a portal for posting updates on the schedule and photos of the fabrication.
 - d. Grant Applications (AFG, SAFER)
 - i. SCBA's & Exhaust Removal System
 - Battalion Chief Brady Johnson discussed the SCBA's and the Exhaust Removal system under consideration for purchase

with approved grant funds. SCBA's costs about \$7,000 each, but GTFD will only pay 5% of the cost with grant funds covering the rest. Diesel fumes have been identified as a cause for testicular cancer, so the exhaust removal system is needed to keep our firemen safe. Trustees will be asked to approve both purchases in October and it will take 4 or 5 months for delivery.

ii. Ohio ARPA Retention Bonus Grant

- GTFD was awarded an ARPA Retention Bonus Grant of \$4,000 per employee whose name was submitted previously and who are still employed with the Department. This grant rewards safety service employees who stayed through the pandemic.

iii. Ohio Ambulance Transport Grant

- GTFD was awarded the grant. The grant is provided by the Ohio Office of Budget and Management.

e. Smoke Detectors.

- i. There is concern regarding the Township's liability when GTFD replaces smoke detectors requested by residents, due to building code changes. The area Fire Chief's are meeting with the Delaware County Prosecutor to discuss options and the viability of this program continuing. Going forward may only be able to change batteries for the Township's residents.

3. For Discussion

a. Proposed Fire/Rescue/EMS Survey Questions - Tom Munley and Chelsea Fuller.

- i. Discussion was deferred to our next meeting on October 3rd due to the length of tonight's meeting.
- ii. **Chelsea and Tom requested the committee review the draft and provide comments or questions by email prior to the next meeting. This feedback will reduce the time required for this topic and improve the dialogue at our next meeting.**

4. Comments / Questions from the Committee

- a. There was a question about the pending roundabouts scheduled for Big Walnut Road. They are planned for 2025 and no further information is available currently.

5. Announcements

a. Next Meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2023 (final meeting for 2023 is 11/7). The December meeting has been cancelled due to the annual toy drive.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.