

**Minutes of the Sparta Fire Board Meeting  
March 21, 2019  
Sparta Fire Station**

**Present:** Bergman (twp-chair), Van Patten (village), Fisk (village), Anderson (twp) & Goodfellow (twp)

Also, present: Chief Olney

Absent: Whalen (Village)

Bergman called the meeting to order @7:00 pm.

**Additions to Agenda:** none

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Motion: Van Patten** to approve the agenda.

**Seconded: Fisk**

**Motion Passed: 5-0**

**Public Comment: none**

**Approval of the Minutes:**

**Motion: Made by Van Patten** to approve the February 21, 2019 minutes.

**Seconded: Goodfellow**

**Motion Passed: 5-0**

**Approval of the bills:**

**Motion: Made by VanPatten** to approve bills through March19, 2019

**Seconded: Anderson**

**Motion Passed: 5-0**

**Finance Board Update:**

Van Patten & Anderson reviewed with the fire board the finance committee meetings through March 19, 2019. The finance committee meet twice and approved all bills. Through the first 11 1/2 months of the budget year the Operational Budget is being managed very well by the department and is currently at 86% expended for the budget year. Anderson reviewed electric bill for the fire house and compared it his own home. The station uses approximately 900KW for the month. The rates are very similar with his own home. The average usage for the past months were very similar to last year's usage.

**Old Business: Station Sign**

The "Station Sign" will start construction on Monday of next week. The had board requested that the invoice for the sign be paid out of this year's budget. Olney will check on the invoice for the sign and have it ready for the next finance committee approval meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Chief's Report:** Chief Olney presented the Chief Report (see attachments). There were 60 calls in February and so far in March with 185 calls YTD. There were (2) fire calls, (4) property damage accidents, (4) injury accidents and (1) emergency airplane landing on M37.

The Chief stated he has hired (3) fire fighters one of which if fully trained. The other 2 will start medical training in May and fire school in October.

The Chief and Deputy Chief will be attending the Michigan Fire Chief's Leadership Conference in Novi in April.

The Chief stated the new washer and dryers are in service and working well.

**Budget Amendment:** The Board reviewed the March 19, 2019 Revenue and Expenditure report and decided to not make any changes in the current budget. The Operational budget is currently at 86% of expenditures with less than 2 weeks remaining in the budget year. There were some expenditure categories that had exceeded the original budget, but the total budget should still under run.

**Check Signature Cards:** Olney had requested that the Fire Department check signature approvals be update. He suggested that the department remove Jerry Bolen, retired and Bill Goodfellow, not on the finance committee and add the new "Finance Committee" members to the approval list. Betty Van Patten and Dean Anderson.

**Motion: Made by Fisk** to have the signature approvals be update pending the Village reappointing Van Patten to the Fire Board

**Seconded: Van Patten**

**Motion Passed: 5-0**

**Kent County Fire Commission Contract:** Chief Olney reviewed with the board the changes in the current Fire Commission Contract. The biggest change will be in vehicle insurance costs. It's expected the cost to the department will an additional \$4000 per year. The department has newer and more expensive vehicles to insure.

**Motion: Made by Anderson** to have the Fire Board Chairperson sign the Commission Contract.

**Seconded: Van Patten**

**Motion Passed: 5-0**

**Public Comment:** None

**Next Regular Meeting Date:**

April 18, 2019 at 7 pm at the Sparta Fire Station.

**Motion: Made by Van Patten** to adjourn at 7:28 PM

**Seconded: Fisk**

**Motion Passed: 5-0**

Finance meetings: April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 4:00 PM Sparta Township Office

Minutes by W. Goodfellow 3-22-19