



SAUGATUCK TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

Proudly serving : Douglas | Saugatuck | Saugatuck Township



3342 Blue Star Highway
Saugatuck, MI 49453
269 857-3000 / Fax: 269 857-1228
E-mail: info@saugatuckfire.org

FIRE DISTRICT “SPECIAL” BOARD MEETING

5:00pm – June 17th, 2024

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order: **Meeting called to order by J. Verplank at 5:00pm**
2. Pledge of Allegiance (*Stand if you are able*):
3. Welcome and Introductions:
Chairperson Verplank welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Fire Board.
4. Roll Call:
Saugatuck Township Fire District Fire Administrative Board
PRESENT: S. Aldrich, E. Beckman, D. Fox, J. Verplank, S. Phelps, T. Pullen, C. North
ABSENT: None
Also Present: Chief Greg Janik, D.C. Mantels, W. Bales, P. Stanislawski

Attendance of Councils, not reflected in Roll Call:

City of the Village of Douglas – City Council
PRESENT: C. North, N. Seabert, J. O’Malley
ABSENT: R. Walker, G. Freeman, J. Donovan, M. Balmer
Also Present: Lisa Nocerini – Manager, Laura Kasper - Clerk

City of Saugatuck – City Council
PRESENT: H. Baldwin, S. Dean, H. Anderson, R. Gardner
ABSENT: L. Stanton, G. Muncey, L. White.
Also Present: Ryan Cummins - Manager

Saugatuck Township – Board of Trustees
PRESENT: S. Aldrich, B. Marcy, J. Helmrich
ABSENT: A. Bigford, R. Israels
Also Present: Daniel DeFranco - Manager
5. Reminder: It is requested the board silences cell phones and put them away for the duration of the meeting.
6. Approval of Agenda (*additions / deletions*):
Motion by Phelps, 2nd by Pullen, to approve the agenda as presented. No discussion. Motion passes by unanimous by voice vote.
7. Public Comment on Agenda Items Only: (*Limit 3 Minutes*)
A. None
8. Special Guest Speakers
A. Aaron Schut and Tedd VanSolkema from Life EMS
1. Tedd VanSolkema presented a brief introduction of Life EMS and them in the area.



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9. Unfinished Business:

- A. None

10. New Business:

A. Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget Presentation

- 1. Chief Janik and D.C. Mantels covered the PowerPoint presentation explaining the changes in school safety, community risk reduction, Rescue #2161, the traffic management apparatus and how the milage was staying the same this year.

B. Public Hearing - Fiscal Year 2024-25 Budget

Motion to Open Public Hearing (*Roll Call Vote*):

Motion by Phelps, 2nd by North, to open the public hearing on the FY 2024-25 budget. No discussion. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

Comments in Support of the budget

- 1. None

Comments Opposed to the budget

- 1. None

General Comments about the budget

- 1. Lisa Nocerini – Douglas City Manager – has been involved with the oversight of other Fire Departments and appreciated how well this department manages its budget. Impressed with the forward thinking of EMS response and the equipment as times are changing and the equipment is very expensive. I am very impressed with how the equipment and the department works and it is clear that they take great pride in their efforts. As a resident of Douglas, she supports this 100%.
- 2. Helen Baldwin – Saugatuck City Council – asked if there was any update on School Resource Officers. Chief Janik learned from the Sheriff’s office that the school is proceeding slowly and cautiously. Saugatuck is the only school in Allegan County without a SRO.
- 3. Holly Anderson – Saugatuck City Council – really wanted to thank the Chief and his team for all of the support, work and recommendations they provided to the short-term rental task force last year. They were incredibly thorough, and she believes they adopted every recommendation made by the Fire District. Also asked about fees for plan reviews and inspections. Chief Janik indicated that we will do invoice fees for other than single family homes after the first 1.5 hours of review.
- 4. Russ Gardner – Saugatuck City Council – Thank you to all the officers, Chief Janik, and the Fire Board. The 32% decrease in Fire calls caught his attention, and the progression we have. Continues to be impressed how such a small department can grow, evolve, and be so professional for its size. Very supportive of the budget.



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- 5. Daniel DeFranco – Saugatuck Township Manager – thank the entire Fire District, the Board, and Chief Janik. Wanted to highlight the new rescue truck and the partnership with Life EMS. This was done with no fanfare, but the District worked on this for over a year to find the most cost effective way to improve ambulance coverage within the Fire District. It is really incredible. Wants to highlight this and congratulate the department for all the hard work and efforts. Our community was so proactive to obtain this partnership and he can't thank the District enough for doing so.

Motion to Close Public Hearing (Roll Call Vote):

Motion by North, 2nd by Beckman, to open the public hearing on the FY 2024-25 budget. No discussion. Motion passes by unanimous voice vote.

~~C. Fire District Budget Approval – Fiscal Year 2024-25 (Roll Call Vote)~~

11. Correspondence:

A. None

12. Public Comments: *(Limit 3 Minutes)*

A. None

13. Fire Board Comments:

- Aldrich - None
- Beckman – None
- Fox – None
- Verplank – None
- Phelps - None
- Pullen – None
- North – None

14. Adjournment:

A. Meeting adjourned at 5:49pm.

NOTICE

Request for accommodations or interpretive services must be made 48 hours prior to this meeting. Please contact Saugatuck Township Fire District at 269-857-3000 for further information.