

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024

Present: David Bialek, PharmD, R.Ph., Christopher Stump, John McMullan, Vince Visoskas,
Jennifer Maull, Chief Bill Rigby.

Excused: Carissa Ciuca.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Mr. McMullan called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

1. Discussion: Request for a waiver from use of space fees at Roosevelt Community Center.

Mr. McMullan reported the Township was approached with a request from the Girl Scouts currently using space at the Roosevelt Community Center for a discount or reduction in the cost of renting space for their meetings. Ms. Maull stated the Girl Scouts meet two times per month and their leadership group meeting is once per month. Mr. Bialek asked how many non-profits are currently using the facility, and Ms. Maull stated seven are using the rooms. She added that the following groups pay; Widener University Lecture Series, Devereaux, and Silly Nuts, among others. She added that Delco Storm (cheerleaders) pays \$600 per month, and they are looking to increase the fee to \$750. The Girl Scouts currently pay \$15 per use and want to decrease the amount to \$10 per use. Mr. McMullan stated Delco Storm pays even if they are a no-show. He added there have been a lot of inquiries about use of the classrooms. He stated the utility usage along with building maintenance is very high and the fees are in place to assist in covering operating costs of the center. Mr. McMullan stated the Parks and Recreation Assistant has recently been moved to the Community Center and many services have now transferred to the center. Because of this they can eliminate two part-time positions. They still have the part-time position that is used for nights and weekends.

Mr. Bialek stated he is not opposed to the reduction of fee but is concerned about the other non-profits using the facility. He stated he is not comfortable going down this slippery slope because if you do for one, you should do for all. Mr. McMullan stated they did an analysis with surrounding municipalities to come up with the building usage fee schedule. He added the Girl Scouts use the auditorium which in the fee schedule is \$50 per use and still want to pay \$10 per use. Ms. Maull stated the Girl Scouts meet on Saturday and at times have been late, but the Township is paying the employee to open up and close the facility. Mr. Stump asked if a part-time position needs to be filled, and Mr. McMullan stated they have one full-time employee for Monday through Friday and one part-time employee for nights and weekends. Mr. Stump asked how often the fee schedule is reviewed, and Mr. McMullan stated the current fee schedule took effect in January 2023 and is reviewed as part of the yearly budget. Mr. Bialek stated the committee is not opposed to reducing the fee for the Girl Scouts but warns there must be consistency with non-profits, consistency with other municipalities, and must structure the fee schedule to cover the costs of running the facility.

2. Discussion: Out of Service RRFC Ladder 46 Fire Truck.

Mr. McMullan stated Rocky Run Fire Company's Ladder 46 is at Fireline Equipment and he and Chief Rigby have been in discussion with the owner of Fire Line and the technician looking to identify issues from the compartment fire. The fire damage is covered by insurance, but there are currently other outstanding issues including aerial and pump tests. Chief Rigby stated the cab lift needed repair which is the only Township cost incurred to date. He stated that in order to bring the apparatus to the position to be able to sell, it will need aerial and pump certification. He added a third party will do the needed certifications. Chief Rigby stated they will need approximately \$32,500 to get the ladder to selling position. They are hoping to get \$125,000. Chief Rigby stated he thinks the numbers from Fireline Equipment may be inflated and he is not comfortable with giving them a blank check for repairs. Mr. Bialek asked if there is a storage fee, and Chief Rigby stated no. Mr. McMullan stated the Township would like to remove the ladder truck from Fireline Equipment and get a third-party assessment so they can present options to the committee. Mr. Bialek asked if there is money budgeted for repairs, and Mr. McMullan stated \$25,000 is budgeted annually for repairs and testing of apparatus. Mr. Visoskas stated they can use funds from Capital equipment and replenish with the sale of the apparatus. Mr. Bialek stated he is in favor of bringing the ladder back and having a third party estimate to compare with the Fireline Equipment estimate.

3. Discussion: MTFC Squad 50 Fire Truck.

Mr. McMullan stated repairs to the Squad 50 transmission and associated towing in 2022 were approximately \$24,000. He stated there was a previous collective agreement that any expenses over \$5,000 were to be reimbursed to the fire companies. He stated they did not budget for this reimbursement, but Middletown Fire Company proposed the Township give them credit for future repairs. He added this credit could be spread out over years. Mr. Visoskas stated the committee and Township should relook at the equipment and replacement schedule in regard to maintenance and repairs. Chief Rigby stated the catastrophic breakdown of the transmission on Squad 50 incurred many costs including towing. Mr. Bialek stated the Township should provide the credit to Middletown Fire Company but should look at catastrophic loss or repairs going forward. Mr. Stump added this should also reflect the mix of trucks and equipment. Mr. Visoskas added funds can be moved to the equipment replacement fund and recouped upon sale of the Squad.

There being no further business, Mr. Bialek adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon Browne