

MAURICE RIVER TOWNSHIP
Special Meeting – Ambulance Contract
Wednesday, March 9, 2016 – 6:00 P.M.

This meeting has been advertised in accordance with the statutes of the State of New Jersey.

Present: Andrew Sarclette
Patricia Gross
J. Roy Oliver
Denise L. Peterson

Guests: William King, Sr., Belleplaine Rescue
John Shute, Belleplaine Rescue
Kenneth Whildin
Tom Imbarrato

Purpose of the meeting is to exchange of information regarding the ambulance contract for the southern portion of the township.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Sarclette at 6:00 p.m. and attendance was noted.

Discussion

Mr. Oliver provided a synopsis of the meeting which took place on March 1, 2016. The attendees of that meeting were J. Roy Oliver, John Shute, William King, Jr. and Denise Peterson.

Mr. Oliver explained that due to budgetary restraints an ambulance purchase did not seem feasible. He proposed a payment of \$50,000 for the remainder of 2016 (April 1 to December 31, 2016) and the payment of \$5,625 for Jan 1 to March 31, 2016 (based on the extension of the 2015 agreement). The four contract years there would be a 2% increase annually.

It was further discussed regarding reimbursement to Belleplaine for supplies and training provided to Leesburg Volunteer Fire and Heislerville Volunteer Fire in the amount of \$20,000 total (\$10,000 for costs to Leesburg VFC and \$10,000 for costs to Heislerville VFC). It was requested of Belleplaine to submit statements of supplies and training provided to the LVFC and HVFC on a quarterly basis to substantiate the reimbursement. This reimburse in the amount of \$20,000 would start in year 2017 and each year thereafter of the contract.

Mr. King described the process of replenishing supplies to LVFC and HVFC. Basically trauma bags that are used on scene are switched out with fully stocked bags. It is difficult to account for each item in the bag. Mr. Oliver explained that training to LVFC and HVFC should be at least yearly and the statement must include who was trained, hours involved and other costs associated with each training.

Mr. King stated that Belleplaine is interested in having a 5 year contract versus a yearly contract with the township.

Mr. Tom Imbarrato questioned "how" the other companies Port Elizabeth and Cumberland handle these costs. Mr. Sarclette explained that from what he was told Millville has the same arrangement with these companies. Mr. Imbarrato questioned whether there would be repercussions down the road based on decisions made on this contract. It was discussed that consideration would be made as they were addressed to the Township Committee.

Mr. Oliver emphasized that historically Belleplaine responds to more calls in the southern portion of the township (almost a third more) than Millville responds to in the northern portion. It was further discussed the Belleplaine sends two units to a scene while Millville only sends one, even if two are requested. In considering Belleplaine's contract it was discussed that response time is vital to the decision.

A discussion took place regarding the fire companies being accountable for the expenditures of supplies and training through their budgets. Mr. Whildin stated that HVFC is very accountable but their budget would not cover all supplies and training that Belleplaine supplies at no cost currently. Mr. Sarclette concurred that HVFC is very good at budgeting and accounting for the funds available to them but he is not aware of LVFC's accounting practices.

A brief discussion took place regarding the questionable "certification" that Belleplaine does hold to provide transport services to the prison. Mr. King stated that Belleplaine has the certifications mandated by the state and currently provides transport services to several state facilities. Mr. Sarclette mentioned the "state contract" for transport services. Mr. King stated that this is brokerage with a company called Medix and Belleplaine is a listed provider with them but is unsure "why" Lower Township is receiving the transport service instead of them.

Mr. Sarclette made a motion to approve the proposed contract rates as discussed at the March 1, 2016 meeting and starting in 2017 to reimburse Belleplaine \$20,000 (cap) annually for supplies and training to LVFC and HVFC; seconded by Mrs. Gross.

Roll Call: Ayes – Gross, Oliver, Sarclette Nays – None

The clerk verified the terms:

Rates:

2016 - \$50,000 plus \$5,625 (Jan-Mar 2016 based on 2015 contract rates) = \$55,625

2017 - \$50,000 plus 2% = \$51,000

2018 - \$51,000 plus 2% = \$52,020

2019 - \$52,020 plus 2% = \$53,061

2020 - \$53,061 plus 2% = \$54,122

Reimbursement:

Starting year 2017 a reimbursement totaling \$20,000 (\$10,000 for LVFC supply & training costs; \$10,000 for HVFC supply & training costs) will be made to Belleplaine Rescue Squad. Belleplaine will be responsible for supplying a statement to Maurice River Township on a quarterly basis to substantiate reimbursement for the supplies and training provided. The \$20,000 year reimbursement will start in year 2017 and every year thereafter of the contract.

Mr. Sarclette stated that verification from the CMFO, Allen Foster is needed regarding these terms.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned.

Denise L. Peterson, Municipal Clerk