

PROPOSED MINUTES

GRAAFSCHAP FIRE BOARD
4534 60TH STREET
HOLLAND, MI 49423
(616) 335-3050

SERVING LAKETOWN AND FILLMORE TOWNSHIPS

January 5, 2023

ARTICLE I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bob Yonker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and opened with prayer.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Doug Den Bleyker, Brett Prins, Bob Yonker, Linda Howell,
Dave Grumney, Al Meshkin (Laketown alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Dewey, Tim Hofman

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Capel – Deputy Fire Chief
Jim Hayden – Public Information Coordinator

ARTICLE II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The board reviewed the minutes of the Dec. 1, 2022, meeting. **A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Meshkin to approve the minutes as submitted. Chair Yonker called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED 3-0.**

ARTICLE III. UPDATE FROM CHIEF

Den Bleyker updated the board on New Personnel/Retired Personnel, Cost Recovery, Stats for 2002, Apparatus Report, Training, Live Burn Facility, Commercial Business and Rental Inspections, Grants, Collaborative Resourcing, Firefighter Auxiliary, Station Upgrades 2022 and Tentative Capital Plans for 2023.

ARTICLE IV. OLD BUSINESS

a. Budget.

Meshkin presented the proposed 2023 budget. The board discussed the proposed budget. **A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Yonker to recommend to the Laketown and Fillmore township boards the approval of the Graafschap Fire Department 2023 budget as presented. Chair Yonker called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED 3-0.**

b. Staffing

Den Bleyker discussed staffing, including the decrease in staffing over the increase in runs, proposed recruitment and retention wage incentives and wage scale.

ARTICLE V. NEW BUSINESS

a. SAFER Grant

Grumney presented information from the Federal Emergency Management Agency Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant. The SAFER grant would pay for three years of staffing then the fire department would have to pick up the following years of employment. The board discussed the grant and local funding. Meshkin said he will look at funding. Grumney will follow the grant which has not yet been approved by Congress.

b. ISO Fire Department Audit

Den Bleyker said the department is working on the audit, Auditors will be at the station next week.

ARTICLE VI. CITIZENS COMMENTS -- None.

ARTICLE VII. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Howell and seconded by Meshkin to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m. Chair Yonker called for a vote on the motion. UNANIMOUS DECISION – MOTION APPROVED 3-0.