

Leland Township Board Budget Meeting

Fire Department

February 16, 2023, 11:00 a.m.

Leland Township Office, 224 W. Main St., Lake Leelanau

PRESENT: Supervisor Susan Och, Clerk Lisa Brookfield, Treasurer Shirley Garthe, Trustee Clint Mitchell, Trustee Mariann Kirch, Chief Dan Besson

The meeting was brought to order at 11:07 a.m.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Operating Fund

Chief Besson discussed line items of this year's budget that affected the overall budget and may have bearing in deciding next year's budget. There was a reduction in EMS transports. There has been an above normal turnover of full-time employees. Some had injuries or leaves of absence that had to be filled with a paramedic. Chief Besson explained how the Township is paid when the Fire Department helps other townships. There have been very little complaints about our EMS people. The Township's Fire Department has applied for grants. Chief Besson provided a chart of salary, wages, and insurance costs for each employee. He will be adding to that extra shifts that fire fighters fill on weekends (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) which is the busiest time. There is longevity pay to encourage workers to stay. Increased maintenance is needed for the floor at the Leland station. The floor is very slippery. They would like to use a gritty paint on it. The parking lot needs to be resealed. The Lake Leelanau station could use some weed and seed. There is an extra fund for unexpected expenses and could be used for extra workers' wages.

Training and Fire Equipment

The needs for this fund are anticipated to increase by 25% based on what was spent previously for training and fire equipment. Chief Besson described the work that was done on the fire trucks this year and the costs. The ladder truck will soon have its last payment. The brush truck was sold for \$30,000. Another truck is on order but there has been no news as to when it will arrive.

Bunker gear always goes up in cost as it is custom fitted to the person. The gear goes out of service after 10 years. The gear often gets dirty and wet and is not in good shape for the next occasion it is needed. Chief Besson would like back up gear. Furniture for the dorms will be less this year. Golden Fowler donated some beds this year. A ventilator was purchased last year. It is required that only a paramedic can use it. The fire department does routine preventative maintenance on their equipment.

The Board has been given a draft copy of the Chief's new contract. Chief Besson discussed some of the changes. The contract has been vetted by the attorney and will be discussed at a Board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Kacin, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: _____

Susan Och, Leland Township Supervisor

Lisa Brookfield, Township Clerk