

Jamestown Township Fire Board

Unofficial Minutes of March 16, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM.

Board members in attendance: Janet Oskin, Wendell Loew, Mike Rose, Jim Ondersma.

Absent with notice: Gail Altman.

Fire Department Members in attendance: Chief Duane Miedema, Keith King and Tim Kortman.

No one from the community attended the meeting.

The minutes from the January 20, 2020 were read and approved. Motion by J Oskin and supported by J Ondersma to accept as written.

Mike Rose and Jim Ondersma were re-appointed to the fire board for a two-year term by the township board at their February meeting.

Chief's Report

- Updated the board on precautions the fire department is taking for the Covid-19 virus.
- For the month of February there were 30 calls, compared to 23 in 2019.
- Total calls to date are 66, compared to 85 in 2019.
- The department formed a committee to choose what style of replacement helmet to purchase. The current helmets will exceed their expiration date in the next twelve months.
- At the last fire department meeting, the committee presented their findings to the fire fighters. The majority of the department chose the European style over the traditional style. It was noted that three other fire departments in West Michigan are also changing to the European style helmet also.
- Truck 1431 – a 1988 step van used to refill oxygen tanks was sold for \$6000. The fire department is equipping a former rescue - medical truck to take its place.
- It was noted that because of the Covid-19 virus, the fire academy classes will be presented “online” until further notice.
- Earlier in March, a committee interviewed Jamestown fire fighters to fill the position of deputy chief and a lieutenant position for six months or longer at station #2, while Jonathan Hubach is out on medical leave. The committee recommended that Keith King serve as the deputy chief and Greg Landheer as the lieutenant. This recommendation will be presented to the township board for their approval at their March meeting.

The next scheduled meeting will be on May 18 at 5:45 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Submitted by Jim Ondersma