

**Fairfield Township
Special Board Meeting – Held via Zoom
February 13, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Supervisor Chris McCallister with a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Please note: Due to restrictions in Michigan in response to COVID-19 and temporarily changing the Open Meetings Act to allow public bodies to conduct their meetings electronically, the meeting was held via Zoom.

Supervisor Chris McCallister took roll call for attendance: Board members present: Trustee Paul Green - Y, Trustee Bonnie Zenk - Y, Clerk Deb Keller – Y and Treasurer Dawn Comar – Y.

McCallister informed the audience that this was a Community Update with the sole purpose to inform the residents of Fairfield Township about their safety and protection for emergency services.

McCallister thanked supporting Fire Department members Chief Ryan Rank and Assistant Chief Nic Wilson of Madison Township Fire Department, Chief Brad Lonis and Assistant Chief Chad Schisler of Morenci Fire Department.

McCallister reassured Township residents that there would be no interruption in services for EMS or Fire. ALS from Madison will continue as usual. For Fire, Madison and Morenci will be on a dual dispatch for the Township as well as the Box Cards that former Chief Cupp had set up with Lyons. Nothing has changed.

Chief Rank, Madison, restated that nothing has changed with the dual dispatch.

McCallister then opened it up for community members to ask questions or make comments.

Amy Francoeur asked what has changed and who has been responding. McCallister stated that the Township had 4 resign on February 8 and 2 additional resigned on February 11.

Lisa (Sam) asked why they had to leave. McCallister stated that the employees that had resigned February 8 were asked to leave the premises since the Fire Station was closed to general public due to COVID, as all Fire Stations have been.

Justin Strahan inquired about the plan going forward. McCallister stated that we would be working with existing/remaining Fire Fighters for training with surrounding Fire Departments along with identifying issues and solutions.

Karen Lambka had a question in regards to billing. McCallister stated that with mutual aid, there would be no change in billing. Medical will be billed in the same way as handled prior.

Lisa (Sam) asked about the write off policy. McCallister stated that the insurance company would still be billed and whatever was not paid, would be written off.

Chief Rank restated that just as before, this is not a new policy. Billing will be handled through the insurance company with the remaining being written off.

Lisa (Sam) wanted to know why they were asked to leave? McCallister stated that they had resigned on February 8 so they were asked to leave on February 10 because they were no longer on the Township Fire Department. He also stated that we were working through HR to see if the reasons could be released.

Chief Lonis, made a statement that Morenci is committed to serving Fairfield. They will work together with Madison Fire Department and will work with Captain Winters offering training and other resources.

Matt Ostrander questioned the licensing of the current personnel. McCallister stated that he will be working with Captain Winters to determine licenses.

Amy Francoeur asked when the next meeting was scheduled. McCallister stated that the next regular Board meeting was March 8 at 7:00 pm.

Lisa (Sam) asked how long had the employees been there. McCallister stated that he was not sure how long they had been employed by the Township.

Peterson asked if we could be licensed with state. McCallister stated that we can still be licensed as long as the Township has mutual aid.

Lisa (Sam) asked why everything changed. McCallister stated that the purpose of the meeting was to focus on the safety and protection of Fairfield Township residents.

McCallister closed with stating that the highest priority of the Township Board is to ensure all Township residents are covered for both EMS and Fire protection.

McCallister thanked all participants for joining.

Comar made a motion to adjourn, second by Zenk. Meeting was adjourned at 9:33 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Keller, Clerk