

June 27, 2013 Adams County Council of Government Meeting
Now that we have the Financing Fire Services report:

The fire funding study, sponsored by COG and ACVESA, was a joint effort to provide Adams County municipalities the information needed for each entity to determine how they would provide equitable funding to their respective fire companies. This tool provided the background information needed for each municipality to determine the method they might use to reach this level.

It is important to remember that the scope of this study was equitable funding. To this end, keep in mind, that on their fundraising drives, our local fire departments only receive donations from approximately 25% of their residents. Therefore, the majority of residents are receiving "a free ride".

The recommendation of the study was an across the board .25 mill tax. That method would mean that all property owners would pay the same rate, based on their assessed value determined by Adams County. If one were to adopt a fire tax, the money generated would by law be dedicated only for the fire companies, and proportionate based on the primary due area into the respective municipality.

Disbursement of tax dollars must be accountable.

That takes us to the next point. A small group is currently meeting, to determine forms that would work for both municipalities and fire companies. This group includes fire department administrators, as well as municipal officials. This will provide information regarding accepted operational costs, time lines for disbursement, and suggestions. Recommendations will come out of this group.

What has become evident to those of us who have worked on this project is the need for the municipalities to sit down with their respective fire companies, and work out a MOU. We have the legal responsibility to provide for the health and safety of our residents, and the fire company is the delivery mechanism for that. We must work together to that end. Be it a resolution or an ordinance, each municipality should work with their solicitor

Talking with residents it becomes apparent that although no one likes to hear of tax increase, however, once they understand that a fire tax would be dedicated to fire service, and would appear on their tax bill independently, they are in favor as long as there is accountability. They too want to retain their volunteers and respect their service. If we all work together on the administrative disbursements of .25 mill dollar amounts we will be much stronger in bringing about the intent of equitable funding.

We would encourage you to set up meetings with your respective fire departments at your workshops to begin discussions.

The position of this COG has always been, we will provide information. How each member handles this information, is entirely up to each individual body.

Informational forms are being handled out to assist you in the contacts for setting up meetings.

Thank you.

Barb Underwood
Cumberland Township Supervisor

→ IMPORTANT STEP ←
TO HELP FACILITATE COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE MUNICIPALITIES THEY SERVE.

Historically, Fire Departments and Municipalities have had varying levels of communication and collaboration. This may have worked in the past, but the future requires even stronger partnerships.

In 2008, the Borough and Township Code had a significant change. The law changed to say that municipalities “shall” be responsible for fire and emergency medical services. We cannot assume that the people and property within our municipalities are protected. We have to know that we are doing everything we can to ensure that the volunteer departments remain solvent and able to provide emergency services within our municipalities.

We are very fortunate to have the services of our departments and volunteers, but they need our financial help. Please make the effort to communicate and collaborate with each other.

→ Message to Fire Departments:

Please go to your municipal officials and request to have an informational workshop with the elected officials to discuss the Financing Fire Services study. It is important that the municipalities and the fire departments communicate and have the opportunity to hear the same questions and answers.

You will find attached the contact information including the phone number and address for all the municipalities. Also the typical time a monthly meeting is held so you can work it into your schedule.

→ Message to Boroughs and Townships:

Please contact your first due departments and request they come and meet with your elected officials. The benefit of having both the municipality and department(s) in the same room is the opportunity to discuss common concerns, ask and answer questions so everyone is hearing the same thing. If you have never met with your Departments, an agenda for this informal workshop could be:

- Introductions
- Fire Department(s) – Overview of services
- Fire Department(s) – Sources of funding
- Discussion about the Fire Funding Study
- Concerns from the Muncipal Perspective
- Concerns from a Fire Dept. Perspective

Find attached the contact information for the departments within your municipal boundary first due call area.

Any questions you may have should be directed to: Sharon Hamm, sharon.hamm@strabantownship.com *Thank you*

Attached are two documents. One gives municipal meeting information and the second gives department contact information.

Municipality Contact and Meeting Times

Municipality	Phone	Meeting Times for each month	Primary Due Fire Department(s) Per Municipality
Abbottstown Boro.	259-0965	7 pm, 1st & 3rd Thu.	United Hook & Ladder FD #33
Arendtsville Boro.	677-6009	6:30 pm, 3rd Thu.	Arendtsville FD #5
Bendersville Boro.	677-8112	7 pm, last Tue.	Bendersville FD #7
Berwick Twp.	632-1829	6 pm, 2nd & 4th Mon.	United Hook & Ladder FD #33
Biglerville Boro.	677-9488	7 pm, 1st Tue.	Biglerville FD #6
Bonneauville Boro.	334-2662	7 pm, 3rd Tue.	Bonneauville FD #19
Butler Twp.	677-6712	7 pm, 2nd Mon.	Arendtsville FD #5, Biglerville FD #6, Gettysburg FD #1, Heidlersburg FD #25
Carroll Valley Boro.	642-8269	7 pm, 2nd Tue after 1st Mon	Fairfield FD #2, Fountaindale FD #3
Conewago Twp.	637-0411	7 pm, 3rd Mon.	SAVES FD #29
Cumberland Twp.	334-6485	7 pm, 4th Tue.	Barlow FD #22, Gettysburg FD #1, Greenmount FD #23
East Berlin Boro.	259-9224	7 pm, 1st Wed. & last Tue.	East Berlin FD #11
Fairfield Boro.	642-5640	7 pm, 4th Tue.	Fairfield FD #2
Franklin Twp.	334-4901	7 pm, 1st Thu. after 1st Wed.	Arendtsville FD #5, Buchanan FD #27, Cashtown FD #4
Freedom Twp.	337-2926	8 pm, 2nd Wed.	Greenmount FD #23
Germany Twp.	359-7537	6 pm, 2nd Mon.	Littlestown FD #20
Gettysburg Boro.	334-1160	7 pm, 2nd Mon.	Gettysburg FD #1
Hamilton Twp.	259-7237	7 pm, 1st Mon.	East Berlin FD #11, Hampton FD #10, United Hook & Ladder FD #33
Hamiltonban Twp.	642-8509	7 pm, 1st Tue.	Cashtown FD #4, Fairfield FD #2, Fountaindale FD #3, South Mountain FD #16
Highland Twp.	642-8410	7:30 pm, 2nd Tue.	Cashtown FD #4, Fairfield FD #2, Gettysburg FD #1
Huntington Twp.	528-4027	7:30 pm, 2nd Thu.	Bendersville FD #7, Heidlersburg FD #25, York Springs FD #9
Latimore Twp.	528-4614	6 pm, 2nd Mon.	Lake Meade FD #26, York Springs FD #9
Liberty Twp.	642-3780	7:30 pm, 1st Tue.	Fairfield FD #2, Fountaindale FD #3
Littlestown Boro.	359-5101	7 pm, 4th Tue.	Littlestown FD #20
McSherrystown Boro.	637-1838	7 pm, 2nd & 4th Wed.	SAVES FD #29
Menallen Twp.	677-6635	7:30 pm, 2nd Thu.	Arendtsville FD #5, Bendersville #7
Mount Joy Twp.	359-4500	7 pm, 3rd Thu.	Barlow FD #22, Bonneauville FD #19, Gettysburg FD #1, Littlestown FD #20
Mount Pleasant Twp.	624-8049	7 pm, 4th Thu.	Bonneauville FD #19, Gettysburg FD #1, Littlestown FD #20, SAVES FD #29, United Hook & Ladder FD #33
New Oxford Boro.	624-2188	7 pm, 1st Mon.	United Hook & Ladder FD #33
Oxford Twp.	624-4544	6:30 pm, 3rd Tue.	Irishtown FD #14, United Hook & Ladder FD #33
Reading Twp.	624-4222	6 pm, 3rd Mon.	East Berlin FD #11, Hampton FD #10, Lake Meade FD #26, York Springs FD #9
Straban Twp.	334-4833	7 pm, 1st Mon.	Biglerville FD #6, Bonneauville FD #19, Gettysburg FD #1, Heidlersburg FD #25, United Hook & Ladder FD #33
Tyrone Township	528-4012	7 pm 2nd & 4th Wed.	Bendersville FD #7, Hampton FD #10, Heidlersburg FD #25
Union Township	359-7811	7 pm 1st & 3rd Tue.	Littlestown FD #20, SAVES FD #29
York Springs	528-4032	7 pm 3rd Tue.	York Springs FD #9

Every effort was made to be accurate - my apologies if there are errors, *Sharon Hamm*

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2013 FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

ID	Emergency Service Department	Address Street / P.O. Box	Town	Zip	Contact Phone	Contact Name	Contact Email
1	Gettysburg Fire Department	35 North Stratton St/P.O. Box 3575	Gettysburg	17325	717-334-7548	Ken Kime, President Hurshel Shank, Acting Chief	kckime@embarqmail.com
2	Fairfield Fire & EMS	106 Steelman St/P.O. Box 587	Fairfield	17320	717-642-8842	Bob Fitez, President Kevin Koons, Chief	dbfitez@embarqmail.com
3	Fountaindale Volunteer Fire Dept.	1340 Old Waynesboro Rd	Fairfield	17320	717-794-2841	Steve Fitz, President Dave Martin, Chief	dpmartin@embarqmail.com
4	Cashtown Fire Department	1111 Old Route 30, P.O. Box 172	Cashtown	17310	717-334-3838	Bill Mooney, President Jeff Bowling, Chief	jbowling65@embarqmail.com
5	Arentsville Fire Company	48 Pearl Street, P.O. Box 482	Arentsville	17303	717-677-6200	Bob Hollabaugh, President Steve Schlosser, Chief	president5@comcast.net narrowsvalleyranch@yahoo.com
6	Biglerville Hose & Truck Co. #1	111 South Main St/P.O. Box 391	Biglerville	17307	717-677-7532	Buddy Redden, President Eric Bowmaster, Chief	buddy_redden@yahoo.com biglervillefirechief@hotmail.com
7	Bendersville Community Fire Co.	119 Park Street, P.O. Box 254	Bendersville	17306	717-677-8000	Dave Taylor, President Shawn Melhorn, Chief	dtaylor@gettysburg.edu rasheed@centurylink.net
9	York Springs Fire Company	312 Main Street, P.O. Box 315	York Springs	17372	717-528-4728	Bob Funt, President Jamie Griffie, Chief	griffiejamie@yahoo.com
10	Hampton Fire Company	5371 Carlisle Pk	New Oxford	17350	717-624-2323	Don Sheman, President Randy Wolf, Chief	dsheman1@comcast.net
11	Liberty Fire Co. #1 (East Berlin)	101 E. Locust St., P.O. Box 670	East Berlin	17316	717-259-7125	John Jacobs, President Lee Byers, Chief	chief11lb@aol.com
14	Irishtown Fire Company Inc.	934 Irishtown Rd	New Oxford	17350	717-624-4141	Maurice Miller, President Jay Livingston, Chief	irishtownfire@gmail.com jlivingston@ifc14.org
19	Bonneauville Fire Department	10 Elm Ave	Gettysburg	17325	717-334-5636	Ted Petry, President Jerry Poland, Chief	lawncare9393@aol.com chief19bfd@gmail.com
20	Alpha Fire Co. (Littlestown)	40 East King St/P.O. Box 475	Littlestown	17340	717-359-4212	Elwood Abin, President Scott Small, Chief	alpha20chiefsmall@yahoo.com
22	Barlow Fire Department	2005 Taneytown Rd	Gettysburg	17325	717-334-1717	Jim Brown, President David A Maring, Chief	j4648brown@embarqmail.com maringconst@gmail.com
23	Greenmount Community Fire Co.	3095 Emmitsburg Rd	Gettysburg	17325	717-334-5151	Jeff Hardman, President Brad Poland, Chief	poland@pa.net
25	Heidlersburg Fire Company	2720 Heidlersburg Rd	Gettysburg	17325	717-528-8867	Tom Eyler, President Jim Lady, Chief	mteco9@yahoo.com jladychf@gmail.com
26	Lake Meade Fire & Rescue	492 Lake Meade Dr	East Berlin	17316	717-259-8338	Brian Brandt, President Tom Kittinger, Chief	abad742@comcast.net chief26tk@gmail.com
27	Buchannon Valley Fire Co. #27	1180 Buchanan Valley Rd	Orrtanna	17353	717-677-9234	Tim Baldwin, President Michael Spielman, Chief	dce3fd@yahoo.com
29	SAVES	5865 Hanover Rd	Hanover	17331	717-637-9171	Andrew Weaver, President Craig Hagerman, Chief	president@company29.org chief@company29.org
33	United Hook & Ladder Co. #33	21 North Bolton St	New Oxford	17350	717-624-7456	Joe Byrne, President Steve Rabine, Chief	JByrne@remcopa.com chief13@pa.net

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