

# **BESSEMER TOWNSHIP BOARD**

**REGULAR MEETING – October 27, 2025**

**5:30 PM**

## **AGENDA**

1. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
2. ROLL CALL
3. PRESENTATION OF MINUTES (For the regular mtg. of October 13, 2025)
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limit 3 minutes per person)
6. PETITIONS;
7. COMMUNICATIONS
8. REPORTS – BOARDS, COMMITTEES & OFFICES
9. TREASURER’S REPORT (First Meeting of the Month)
10. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS< PAYROLL & MILEAGE
11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - A. Post Office Status
  - B. Audit
  - C. Water & Sewer Ordinance Review/Amendment
  - D. Union Negotiations
12. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Supervisor Resignation/Appointment
  - B. Special Joint Meeting with Bessemer City Regarding Fire Departments
  - C.
13. PUBLIC COMMENT AND OTHER BUSINESS
14. ADJOURNMENT

Next Board Meeting; November 10, 2025

Fire Department Combination – Notes from Jay Killoran with Spurr Township whose FD was combined with Michigamme Township in 1995.

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While Jay was not with the township during the combination, he was able to share his perspective on the department and serves on the fire board and as the supervisor for Spurr Township.

The fire board runs the organization and meets every month, alternating between the two town halls. Anything that is decided will then go before both township boards individually for approval. Their board is made up of 1 member per township, then 3 at large members (1 from each and then a floater that flips between the townships as their term expires), for a total of 5 members. The Fire Chief does attend meetings but isn't on the board.

The two townships have different fiscal years and have not had any issues with it, except making the department hold off on making any large purchases after Michigamme approves their budget but before Spurr Township has. If there is a large repair that must be done or another emergency, then they will make a budget amendment to accommodate the expense.

From his understanding, it was combined with just an agreement. Both townships have a millage for the fire and EMS department. They split finances straight down the middle and recently purchased a new truck with the debt split 50/50. They also share an enforcement officer to save money. The fireboard processes bills, but Michigamme completes payroll.

It is a fully volunteer department. They pay annual stipends for officers and then pay each member for monthly meetings and training. If they must travel, then they pay mileage as well.

They currently have 24 members and have had a lot of success with recruitment and retention. He thinks it's due to being well outfitted, having a healthy budget, and paying members slightly higher than elsewhere.

## Bessemer Township

|                                                                                |                              |                               |                             |                              |                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Membership                                                                     | Have                         | Shared                        | Bylaws                      |                              |                           |
|                                                                                |                              | 14                            | 5                           | 20                           | To replace everything new |
|                                                                                |                              |                               |                             |                              | \$610,536.00              |
| Necessary Equipment                                                            | Cost                         | Quantity                      | Total                       |                              | ^^with truck              |
| Airpacks                                                                       | \$7,893.00                   |                               | 8 \$63,144.00               |                              | At the very minimum       |
| Extra SCBA Bottles                                                             | \$1,049.00                   |                               | 8 \$8,392.00                |                              | \$160,536.00              |
|                                                                                |                              |                               |                             |                              | ^^without truck           |
| Turnout Gear                                                                   |                              |                               |                             |                              |                           |
| Jackets                                                                        | \$1,546.00                   |                               | 14 \$21,644.00              |                              |                           |
| Pants                                                                          | \$1,084.00                   |                               | 14 \$15,176.00              |                              |                           |
| Hoods                                                                          | \$70.00                      |                               | 14 \$980.00                 |                              |                           |
| Boots                                                                          | \$300.00                     |                               | 14 \$4,200.00               |                              |                           |
| Gloves                                                                         | \$100.00                     |                               | 14 \$1,400.00               |                              |                           |
| Helmets                                                                        | \$400.00                     |                               | 14 \$5,600.00               |                              |                           |
| Cascade System for<br>filling SCBA Air Pk Bottles                              | \$40,000.00                  |                               | 1 \$40,000.00               |                              |                           |
| Tanker 98 - 1998 International<br>NFPA standards are<br>30 yrs for replacement | Used low end<br>\$175,000.00 | Used high end<br>\$250,000.00 | New low end<br>\$300,000.00 | New high end<br>\$450,000.00 |                           |

## Bessemer City

|                                                   |              |               |              |              |                           |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Membership                                        | Have         | Shared        | Bylaws       |              |                           |
|                                                   |              | 12            | 5            | 20           | To replace everything new |
|                                                   |              |               |              |              | \$713,536.00              |
| Necessary Equipment                               | Cost         | Quantity      | Total        |              | ^^with truck              |
| Airpacks                                          | \$7,893.00   |               | 8            | \$63,144.00  | At the very minimum       |
| Extra SCBA Bottles                                | \$1,049.00   |               | 8            | \$8,392.00   | \$153,536.00              |
|                                                   |              |               |              |              | ^^without truck           |
| Turnout Gear                                      |              |               |              |              |                           |
| Jackets                                           | \$1,546.00   |               | 12           | \$18,552.00  |                           |
| Pants                                             | \$1,084.00   |               | 12           | \$13,008.00  |                           |
| Hoods                                             | \$70.00      |               | 12           | \$840.00     |                           |
| Boots                                             | \$300.00     |               | 12           | \$3,600.00   |                           |
| Gloves                                            | \$100.00     |               | 12           | \$1,200.00   |                           |
| Helmets                                           | \$400.00     |               | 12           | \$4,800.00   |                           |
| Cascade System for<br>filling SCBA Air Pk Bottles | \$40,000.00  |               | 1            | \$40,000.00  |                           |
| Engine 4 - 1986 KW                                | Used low end | Used high end | New low end  | New high end |                           |
| NFPA standards are                                | \$175,000.00 | \$350,000.00  | \$400,000.00 | \$560,000.00 |                           |
| 30 yrs for replacement                            |              |               |              |              |                           |

Costs that could be reduced if shared

|                             |             |   |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| Airpacks                    | \$7,893.00  | 4 | \$31,572.00 |
| Extra SCBA Bottles          | \$1,049.00  | 4 | \$4,196.00  |
| Turnout Gear                |             |   |             |
| Jackets                     | \$1,546.00  | 5 | \$7,730.00  |
| Pants                       | \$1,084.00  | 5 | \$5,420.00  |
| Hoods                       | \$70.00     | 5 | \$350.00    |
| Boots                       | \$300.00    | 5 | \$1,500.00  |
| Gloves                      | \$100.00    | 5 | \$500.00    |
| Helmets                     | \$400.00    | 5 | \$2,000.00  |
| Cascade System for          |             |   |             |
| filling SCBA Air Pk Bottles | \$40,000.00 | 1 | \$40,000.00 |
|                             |             |   | \$93,268.00 |

Could combine the two  
trucks and make one ~\$750,000.00

Would need new fire hall to  
accommodate as neither  
hall is big enough to fit