



Harsen's Island St. Clair Flats Association

Minutes May 12, 2018

Directors Present: George Covalle, Neva Covalle, Patrick Feighan, Jerry Freeman, Donna Halacoglu, Jim Laethem, Melanie Most, Harold Stieber, Paul Stieler, Dennis Szymanski, Jerry Thiel, Leonard Verlinden, Lois Whipple;

Excused: Craig Baloga, Todd Brady, Susan Bryson, Barbara Crown, Mike Hilla, David Martin, Kathy O'Connor, Rosemary Wieczorek;

Guests and Members Present: Paul Atkinson, Mike Balan, Artie Bryson, Jim Decker, Wendy Giese, Charles Hahn, Dolores Kraydich, Gerry Laszczak, Steve Mahac, Kurt Marchwinski, Jim Neumann, Laura Neumann, Sandy Rosen, Linda Schoonover, Joanne Shirkey, Stephanie Spencer, Debbie Thiel, Skip Tornow, Dan Turke, Ray Vigneau, Linda Wasil, Robert Wasil, Randy Wildner.

Patrick Feighan brought the meeting to order at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall at 9:07 am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The April 2018 meeting minutes were presented. **Jerry Thiel made the motion to approve the April 2018 meeting minutes, Lois Whipple seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, minutes to be placed on file.**

Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer Report: Harold Stieber presented the treasurer's reports for April 2018. Harold reported that the balance in the checkbook for April 30, 2018 was \$34,781.57, with total cash on hand being \$57,834.53. Full copies of the monthly Treasurer's Report are available by contacting Harold at stiebha@gmail.com.

Lois Whipple made the motion to approve the April 2018 treasurer's reports, Jim Laethem seconded to approve; all in favor, motion carried, reports to be placed on file.

Secretary Report: Over 900 membership letters were sent out, and so far 420 paid memberships for 2018 have been received to date. There have already been 26 paid entries received for the Car Show this year. Reminder cards will be issued to those who have not responded, and The Old Club needs to be contacted about their membership headcount so Harold can issue the invoice.

Communications: No communications have been received this month.

Government Affairs: Patrick Feighan and Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson have been in contact with representatives from the Lake Carriers Association, Ship Owners Association, Captains and Pilots Association, Canadian carriers, and oceangoing vessels. In the past and even recently, Patrick and Artie have expressed concern to these organizations about large vessels creating a large wake and washing up over the seawall, and these organizations agreed that they will slow down during high water seasons. Both Artie and Patrick have personally observed slower freighter speeds (save for a few rogue players), and provided that feedback to those organizations. They are keeping in contact with one another to continuously provide feedback to make sure both sides are satisfied.



Browne's Field: The Browne's Field committee will be meeting on May 16th to discuss the large list of items that need attention at Browne's Field. With this wonderful asset to our Association, there's a lot to do and anyone who would like to volunteer to be on the committee is welcome to join this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- *Road Cleanup*: The HISCFA Adopt-a-Highway event took place on Saturday, May 6, 2018 this year. Many new people joined this year and several positive comments about the condition of the cleanup area were received following the event.
- *Annual Membership Letter*: Patrick Feighan spoke on behalf of Barbara Crown that all of the letters have been completed and sent out.
- *Island Cleanup*: The dates for this event have been scheduled for Saturday and Sunday June 2nd and 3rd at Browne's Field. This event is sponsored by Clay Township, and is an excellent resource to take advantage of each year. Remind your neighbors!
- *The Delta News*: The beginning layout of The Delta News for 2018 is still currently underway. If anyone has any articles they would like to submit, please contact Barbara Crown.
- *Survey Committee*: Christine Baloga is heading up the committee to set up a survey to provide some feedback to the Association as to what the members (and also other Island residents) would like to see from the Association in the future so we can better serve the Island overall. Christine stated that she would set up a timeline, and Barbara Crown will initiate the preliminary meeting. Melanie Most will assist with the content / question development and proofing the survey.
- *Algonac / Clay Community Foundation Grant Application*: This topic came up abruptly last month and largely caught the Association off guard – the Association was notified of the possibility of a grant on a Monday in March, and then Barbara and Patrick obtained the forms, did some research, filled out the paperwork, and finally turned it in on that Friday. The grant was written for \$4,000 to be specifically applied to a new playscape at Browne's Field, which is estimated to cost around \$12,000 in total. The grant was awarded to the HISCFA for a total of \$1,000.
- *Concert in the Park Series*: The Algonac/Clay Concert in the Park series will add two dates for Harsen's Island, to take place at Browne's Field on Friday, July 27, 2018 and Friday, August 24, 2018.
- *Browne's Field Trunk-to-Trunk Sale*: The Trunk-to-Trunk Sale event will take place at Browne's Field on Saturday, June 16, 2018 from 9am-12pm. Participants can arrive as early as 8:00 am to begin setting up for the sale, and there is a \$10 entry fee per car.
- *Free Shredding Event*: There will be another Shred-for-Free day to be held on Saturday, June 9, 2018 from 9am-12pm at Browne's Field. This is being held at the same time as next month's meeting. This event is sponsored by Dianne Huber of Keller Williams Realty. Bring your old documents and shred them for free.
- *Field Day Meeting*: There will be a committee meeting for Field Day on Thursday, May 24, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall. This is a huge event for the Association and requires a lot of support. Please consider volunteering your time to join a subcommittee for this event.
- *Response to news segment*: Supervisor Artie Bryson was present to discuss the errors in the news segment that recently aired on Channel 4 and to set the record straight. These discussions can be viewed in the Appendix of this document.



NEW BUSINESS

- *Recording Secretary Compensation:* Patrick Feighan along with other members of the board has decided that Melanie Most is doing such a great job as the Recording Secretary for the HISCFA and she has earned a raise. **Jerry Thiel made the motion to raise the Recording Secretary compensation to \$75 per month; Patrick Feighan seconded. All in favor; motion carried.**
- *Bates Cut Water Access:* Jerry Freeman stated that a total of 13 calls were received regarding their concerns about the Bates Cut water station. There is a meeting today, May 12, 2018 at 11:00 am at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall for those individuals who have expressed interest in volunteering to assist with this water station. Some of the items that will need to be taken care of are policing it, keeping it clean, preventing tampering for bulk flow, etc. It is designed for small use (i.e. jugs and small containers), not for bulk use. Bulk users can obtain an access card for the main water station near the ferry / Browne's Field for their bulk filling needs. The outcome of this separate meeting will be reported out at next month's Association meeting.
- *Donation to Algonac / Clay Community Foundation:* Patrick Feighan stated that this foundation is a very worthwhile organization that supports a lot of good things in the Algonac-Clay community. **Jerry Thiel made a motion to donate \$100 towards this grant to help with their good work, Dennis Szymanski seconded; all in favor; motion carried.** Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson was present and stated that he was the Chairman of the Algonac / Clay Community Foundation, and thanked the HISCFA for the \$100 donation. The township puts on a Cinco de Mayo fundraiser every year to raise money, and currently that endowment is up to around \$260,000 but the township only spends the interest. The money that is donated collects interest so that money will be going back into the community years from now, which can only be spent in Clay and Algonac. In the recent Cinco de Mayo event this year, over \$25,000 was given out in scholarships and grants.

Additional comments from directors or guests:

- ✓ A meeting attendee is requesting that someone discuss with the owner of the ferry the topic of shutting off diesel trucks on the ferry so that people will not have difficulty breathing while taking the ferry.
- ✓ Jim Neumann requested to head up a committee to put on a Service Appreciation Day for all our service people (police, fire, etc.). Patrick Feighan stated that the Association would certainly look into that.

Next meeting will be Saturday, June 9, 2018 at **9:00 am** at the Harsen's Island Lions Hall.

Jerry Thiel made the motion to adjourn; Leonard Verlinden seconded. All in favor; meeting adjourned at 10:12 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Most, Recording Secretary

MelanieM@hiscfa.org



APPENDIX



Guest Speaker: Artie Bryson

State of the Harsen's Island Fire Department, staffing and plan going forward

A news segment was conducted by Channel 4 News recently:

<https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/defenders/harsens-island-residents-worry-about-emergency-response-time-after-firehouse-closes-in-clay-township>

In response to this news segment, Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson spoke at the HISCFA's May meeting about this topic to address concerned residents.

Artie stated that the segment was not completely accurate, and was not entirely sure how they managed to screw it up so badly. The township board, along with Pat Feighan, recently had a very open, honest, candid roundtable meeting, and everyone agreed that they are not satisfied with what we have (with respect to fire coverage) right now. However, what we have right now isn't broken by any means. Last year there were about 150 calls on the Island. Of those 150 calls, the longest response time was 12 minutes and several of the response times for other Island calls were around the 9 to 11 minute range. The township wants it to be better, but it's not bad.

Furthermore, the insurance industry (an outside, independent agency) does a study on all fire departments across the country every five years, and they were in Clay Township back in March. They spend about a week in the area and they get very granular: they look at training, staffing, equipment, water flows, pressure readings, checking supply in different areas of the township, communications, dispatch, etc. The lower the score, the better. Five years ago, we were closer to 7 than 6, and this past year it came out around a 5. Artie discovered that they may have missed some things, and they are going to come back and it should be closer to 4 after that which will lower homeowners insurance premiums a little bit.

Staffing and equipment are the two big things that were tackled at the last meeting. Clay Township is attracting new firefighters all the time. Four were hired last month, and we need more. There are three candidates that are going to be assessed this month. A lot of them used to be members of the Clay Township Fire Department years ago and they are coming back. Chief Rose has been doing a great job with a command staff, and they are putting in training programs and there are five different tasks and programs for participants to complete.

One of the things that Channel 4 got really wrong was about the bond for staffing. Clay Township will NOT be doing a bond for staffing. Clay Township is going to be proposing a bond issue for equipment only. A new first-line fire truck will last about twenty years which is the useful life of the truck, then you might get another 10 years or so as a secondary/backup vehicle. Our current equipment is very old. Clay Township's newest equipment is actually on the Island. It used to be stored across the river, but the Chief said that since the Islanders paid for it (when the fire departments were separate), that's where it's staying. It is a 2003 or 2004 model year, and that one is coming up on the end of its service life soon.

Previously the CTFD had the practice of buying used equipment, which means additional costs to repair and maintain to keep them updated. If the voters pass the equipment-only bond issue, CTFD will buy four front-line vehicles. These vehicles will be a pumper, a tanker pumper, a mini pumper, and one additional vehicle. This will give CTFD exactly what it needs, and they will probably be all the same brand so everyone can be trained on all vehicles and everything is standard. CTFD will then sell all five of the existing trucks that we have today, and then



they will be able to put new engines on all our boats. CTFD is currently spending a lot of money on boats to keep them maintained because they have many hours on them. Maintenance has been lacking on the boats recently which is why there will be new plans for preventive maintenance in place so the township doesn't have to go through this again. This bond will also give the township money to make improvements on the buildings. The fire stations are required to have a ventilation system in the buildings. The island doesn't have one at all, and the one in the mainland fire station doesn't work. This work is estimated to cost approximately \$70,000. If the firemen sleep there, they can't run the risk of being asphyxiated. The Island station needs a new roof, the driveway repaired, and other things. The kitchen and bathrooms need to be done, and that will happen with this bond.

How much does the bond cost? The millage that will be levied will be 0.33 mills. For example, if you have a home which is worth \$200,000 with a taxable value of \$100,000, it will cost you \$33 / year. Again, this bond will be for capital equipment ONLY. Not personnel.

Most of our vehicles are over 20 years old and actually closer to 30 years old, purchased used from Chesterfield. The main engine on the mainland – the diesel engine on it is old and it can't even be properly tuned. A few years ago it was taken to a certified service station and the township spent about \$80,000 for a new electronic ignition and other things and it still doesn't run right. A tanker on the mainland, when you turn the steering wheel, the rear axle actually turns a bit, but that was taken to be serviced a few years ago and it still doesn't work correctly, either. The tanker on the Island needs work as well, and it never passes the pump test year after year.

Patrick Feighan confirmed yet again that this bond was for equipment only, and Artie agreed. Patrick said that it's great to have new equipment, but he asked Artie about his commitment to keep the Island staffed 24/7/365. Having equipment is great, but means nothing if there is no one there to run it.

Artie stated that having the island staffed 24/7/365 is the goal, and that the township is working towards that. Artie stated that there are 9 or 10 new people in the township fire department, with 27 total on the books. One thing that the board can do without a vote is to raise the millage currently in place, which will need to happen in order to increase staffing once these new people are trained and ready to work, and the board is committed to doing that.

The issue with staffing is that they are asked, "Who's available to work?" and unfortunately there have been several that are stating they are not available. There have been times they have been scheduled but have decided not to come in because they have better opportunities elsewhere (i.e. another firefighter job in another city, or plowing snow). The way it is set up right now, if they say they're not available, the township doesn't have "the juice" right now to say, "You know what? This is a job, you have to show up." Right now if they don't show up or are not available for four months, we're getting rid of them. It costs a lot of money to keep these people on the books: turnout gear, radios, etc., means close to \$5,000 per fireman just to keep them on the roster. Either they're going to work, or we're going to get new people. The lack of staffing is not a Clay Township issue, it's a county, state, and national issue as well. At the Chief's meeting in St. Clair County recently, it was announced that two township fire departments have merged because they don't have enough people to staff either one individually. There are just not as many people committed and willing to do this job as there used to be.

Part of the issue is the pay scale, and they have recently unionized. There are five unions in the township currently and Artie stated he works with all of them. Artie stated he offered them a contract to be the highest-paid part-time fire department in the county, and they turned down the offer. Artie stated that they can't change anything until they have a ratified status quo, and Artie has even stated for 2-3 years already that he wants to give them more money, but it needs to happen through the budgetary process. The MAFF union representative thought it was a good offer, the mediator (through state mediation) thought it was a good offer, and their local representative also thought that it was a good offer, and yet they still turned it down. They are talking about having a re-vote which may or may not occur, but it also may go to forced arbitration. Artie is confident that a forced arbitration will look at one side or the



other and just say “This is mandatory” and make it so. Artie stated that the township is offering them a 30-40% raise, the pay-per-call run is a 45% raise, and making them the highest paid in the county. What do you think an arbitrator is going to say?

Attracting new employees will go hand in hand with seeing the new equipment and the commitment we have, they will see the new command staff with good training programs... they’re already coming.

Questions for Supervisor Bryson from various meeting attendees:

1. You have stated in the past that when you hire these new employees, then you have to train them. Don’t they come to you trained already?

[Artie] They’re trained to be a firefighter, but they have to learn Clay Township Fire Department’s equipment, they have learn the area if they’re not from around here, etc. NFPA requires you to drive a vehicle so many hours before the township can allow them to operate the vehicle, and things like that take a while.

2. You say you’re giving them an increase in pay. What is their current compensation right now?

[Artie] Duty shifts are only making \$10/hour and Artie also thinks that’s way too low. Everybody in the room does too, and that’s why we are needing to raise the taxes: they need more money. The pay-per-call rate is \$20-25 per hour depending on their rank.

3. You’re quoting a 12-minute response time, but if you go to the end of the Island it’s got to be about 12 miles from the ferry. What kind of response time would you expect down at The Old Club or somewhere down at that end?

[Artie] I’m going by what calls that Clay Township had in the past year. A few years ago there was a condo fire at The Old Club and I have to double-check but I think we were there in about 14 minutes at the condo fire and we saved those condos. I’m not sure if that was dispatched from the Island or the mainland.

4. Doesn’t the Island provide about one-third the overall revenue for the Township?

[Artie] Yes. In the wintertime, approximately 90% of the calls are on mainland. In the summertime, approximately 80% of the calls are on the mainland, and yet Islanders still pay 1/3 the overall taxes. However, the Island is still being serviced. Why aren’t people emotional about not having police on the Island or even a police station on the Island? I understand it is an emotional thing, but I have to look at the numbers to make the decision. Right now the Island is being serviced by the mainland. This Island station is not “closed.” There have been consistently 2-3 days of duty shifts per week. Three months ago I couldn’t say that – we didn’t have the staff. We’re about 30-40% closer to where we want to be.

5. What is our attrition rate? Aren’t some of these people getting trained and moving on to other fire departments?

[Artie] Some do, and that’s a problem. That’s the thing – you train them up, and they can go to Port Huron or somewhere else and work full-time with benefits. This community cannot afford a full-time fire department.

6. Do we have any recourse to when they go wherever they go to get some of that money back after a certain period of time?



[Artie] No, we don't. What has been successful is that if they do go someplace else, we can still retain them part time. A lot of firefighters will actually work for two or three different departments at one time.

7. In my union, our people are required to sign an indenture agreement for the training they receive for x-amount of time if they're willing to take that training from us. I don't see why our firefighters couldn't be forced to sign a two- or three-year agreement that pays for their training before they're allowed to move on or they should not be allowed to move on to another department.

[Artie] That's a good point. I brought that up in negotiations, and they wouldn't TA it.

8. Dennis Szymanski read an email he received from Ken Podolski. It stated:

I would like to express some thoughts on the closing of the island fire station. As you know I spent 33.5 years in the fire service, 25 years in Sterling Heights and 8.5 years as Chief of St. Clair Shores. Over 16 years of my career I spent as a chief level officer and incident commander. Also the last 5.5 years of my work career I was the City Manager for the City of St. Clair Shores.

I'm not sure if the Island station is closed because Clay Twp. Can't hire enough qualified personnel or the Township doesn't have the necessary funds in their current budget to adequately staff the station?

What I do know based on my fire ground command experience, a fire department needs a quick response time, adequate manpower, and a sufficient water supply to contain a fire to it's room of origin and then it depends on many other variables as to whether you can meet that objective.

So I offer until more firefighters can be hired or the necessary funding be provided the following should be considered:

- 1) The Island station should be staffed 24/7 not the Mainland station. Response times from the mainland will take too long.
- 2) Negotiate Automatic Aid Agreements with Algonac and Ira Township fire departments to provide emergency response to Clay Township (Ira would cover half of the Twp. And Algonac would cover the other half) The Island station would also be dispatched to the fire. Note: The cities of St. Clair Shores, Roseville, and Eastpointe have an Automatic Aid Agreement in place to provide immediate response to fires within their respective communities, thus sharing fire resources to benefit the citizens of each community in the Agreement.

I don't want these comments to be construed as bashing the Township Supervisor, Township Board or Fire Chief. I'm sure all of you agonized over the decision to close the Island Station. I would hope my comments will be taken as a suggestion or alternative to what has been implemented thus far. I also offer to discuss my thoughts with any or all of the Township Officials and would also offer to be of any assistance to the current Administration in seeking solutions to maintaining the operation of the Island Fire Station.

[Artie] We've looked at many, many options. There is mutual aid with Ira and Algonac currently, and when there's a fire all units get dispatched immediately. There was recently a chimney fire at the end of the North Channel on the Island. Response time to the North Channel chimney fire was 9 minutes with two trucks from the mainland, and 3-4 minutes later Algonac showed up, and a few minutes after that Ira showed up. We already do have mutual aid. The problem with staffing the Island over the Mainland is that Algonac is not Basic Life Support (BLS). Algonac has what is called Medical First Responders which is basically just first aid training. They don't have a lot of the equipment and technology and training that we do, so that wouldn't bode well for them to cover half the township. And Ira's station... the island could respond to Ira township faster than Ira can respond to the township. Additionally, Clay Township is already contracted to provide police service to Ira Township. Three years ago, this Island was not staffed – it was staffed 30 hours a week three years ago. It wasn't a problem then. We are doing that now, and now it is a problem? The Clay Township Board raised the bar. You guys are mad because we're not there yet. Well, we're mad we're not there yet, too. We have the same goal. I guess basically I'm asking for your support on the bond so we can get new equipment, and we are going to raise the taxes so we can do 24/7 on both sides.

9. Just to recap, based on what we were told in the special investigative report by Channel 4, they said that it's not staffed and it's closed: that's not true. They said the reason it was closed and not staffed was due to budgetary constraints: that's not true. They said it was closed and not staffed because it didn't have the people: we have 27 firefighters on the books so that's not true. Do we have issues? Yes. Our Supervisor is here and telling us that the goal is to be staffed with 2 firemen, 24/7/365 and we're working towards that. What you have told us before was that in the event you couldn't staff 24/7, the emphasis would be on the evening shifts because that's when we're the most vulnerable statistically.



[Artie] That has been going on: 8pm-8am shifts have been staffed on the Island recently. When we have people available who are qualified to work, we send them over here to the Island. It varies, but the Island fire station is staffed approximately 1-4 nights per week currently. Dennis Szymanski added to Artie's comments that he passes the fire station on the Island almost every day, and almost every day he stated he sees between one and three vehicles parked there.

Patrick Feighan stated that he brought up at the Township Board meeting, in looking at the equipment needed for the bond issue, and looking at the staff needs that we all want on the Island to make sure that we have the minimum coverage (and actually we want more than that), Pat has offered to come up with a select group of knowledgeable people from the Island to form a committee and work with the Chief and the Supervisor to provide viable solutions that we can all live with. That offer is on the table and Pat thinks it will work.

10. A few weeks ago there was an article in the Detroit News about Freedom of Information regarding the firing of Daryl DuPage that a lot of people have been asking why you said you believed in transparency. Has there been any problem in giving that information out?

[Artie] Part of the problem was that from the negotiations between Daryl and the insurance company, both parties wanted a gag order – we cannot talk about it. Period.

11. How far is the mainland fire department from the ferry? / I don't see how we can have a response time of twelve minutes if we have to go those three minutes, take a ferry, and then drive a truck (not a sports car) to any place on the Island.

[Artie] Three minutes. About a mile and a half. / The response times that were spoken about today are from previous calls we've had in the last year.

12. Since moving into the community, I've made it a point to have a personal relationship with the police and fire departments. They all have struggles to overcome. Mostly it is staffing issues, but they do have budgetary issues that are related to those staffing issues. Having people come and actually stay and want to stay in this community is a big challenge because they always hear the complaints and the problems that we have with what they do. Not knowing all the facts, people are constantly bashing them. Every day after church, I bring my extra donuts to the fire station and they thank me and invite me in and have a conversation with me. Chief DuPage once told me, "It's things like that that make firemen want to stay." When I was in Roseville, they always had this thing they called Service Appreciation Day where we celebrated our firemen and policemen and we had a barbeque for them and served them because they are the servants to our community. It's the same thing with people who are elected to public office. They catch hell and they never get the praise and thank-yous. They are thankless jobs. We're paying them less than what people are making at McDonald's and we're expecting them to risk their lives for us on a daily basis. They need a little break and know that they're supported and we're behind them.

[Artie] Agreed. Thank you.

13. If it took 9 minutes to get to the chimney fire on the North Channel, how long is it going to take to get to Bruckner's or the other side? More than 9 minutes.

[Artie] It is what it is. Bruckner's is going to take longer, The Old Club is going to take longer; it takes over 12 minutes to get to the end of Anchor Bay Drive from the mainland fire station. It takes us longer to get to the north part of Clay Township because we've got to drive through Algonac. Are they excuses? No. We're trying to make it better. The longest response time was 12 minutes on the Island last year throughout 150 calls. Those are the numbers.



Jerry Freeman stated that the topic of numbers can be discussed but logistics about response times are what they are and that's not something to discuss here.

14. My house could burn down and I couldn't care less as long as I'm still alive. The problem we have is that there's no medically-trained staff to associate with all of these old people. With summer coming it's going to swell to 11,000 in population and many of these are old people who live in Florida year round that pay many, many more taxes than year-round residents.
15. My name is Sandy Rosen. I've been a member of the Association for over 20 years and this is the first time that I've attended a meeting. I wanted to comment that I'm impressed with how well-run this is and for everything the association does. I came here to get educated on the topic of the fire issue, and I read up about as much as I could. I didn't see the report on News 4 or anything like that and I agree with Artie in that it is an emotional issue. What I'm hearing here is that we could talk all day long, but there's a lot of dwelling going on about the problem and not finding a solution. As an observer here, what I'm hearing is that everything that could be done IS being done at this time. Dennis read the letter from Ken, and all of the suggestions made by a seasoned professional seems to have already been incorporated. I think in all fairness, Artie is a little bit under attack here but does anyone have anything else that they can think of that isn't being done already that could be done? Another meeting attendee responded: "Pay for what we want."

[Artie] I guess I'm just asking for your support with the bond issue. We are going to increase the taxes for the operations.

16. Melanie Most thanked Artie for providing CPR classes to the residents on the Island for free, and mentioned she bought the Island fire station \$100 worth of groceries as a thank-you to those men who provided that service.
17. Patrick Feighan commented that we are all responsible for our own safety, so this is a really good time to check the batteries in your smoke detectors and possibly replace furnace filters or dust collection, frayed extension cords or any other things that could potentially lead to a fire.
18. Jerry Thiel stated: I just want to know what everyone is worried about. Are you worried about fire protection, or life-saving protection? Everyone commented: life-saving protection. Like Melanie just mentioned, there were CPR classes at the fire station at no cost to residents. I attended it. I learned. How many people who are worried about life-saving took the time to take a life-saving course?