



MEMORANDUM

From the Office of the
Township Manager

TO: BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FROM: CASEY LALONDE
RE: PROPOSED FALSE FIRE ALARM FEES
DATE: FEBRUARY 11, 2021

As you know, the Township Police Department responds to commercial and residential burglar alarms. Similarly, Goshen Fire Company and the West Chester Fire Company are dispatched for fire alarms. Both companies respond without question when dispatched by the Chester County 911 Center. Many of those fire alarms are false and are due to faulty alarm equipment or other problems with the owners.

Both fire companies and the Township's Fire Marshall, Andrea Testa, have indicated their support for West Goshen Township establishing a fire alarm false alarm fee simply to provide an incentive for building owners to fix their faulty or malfunctioning fire alarm systems.

East Goshen Township and Tredyffrin Township have false fire alarm fees. 30% of the fee goes to the municipality for administrative and billing costs and 70% goes to the fire company to help offset their costs to respond to the false alarms.

The fire companies provide false alarm data to the municipality and the municipal staff bills the subject property. Andrea Testa stated that she would take on the billing responsibility for the Township.

It is proposed the Township establish a fee schedule the same as the Police Department false alarm fee:

1 st false alarm per calendar year	Warning
2 nd & 3 rd false alarm per calendar year	\$50 per alarm
4 th – 7 th false alarm per calendar year	\$100 per alarm
8 th & subsequent false alarm per calendar year	\$200 per alarm

Please contact me with any questions or comments.