

Indian Creek Fire Fighters, Inc., Statement at Meeting of the Township Board  
May 8, 2007

The dealings of the Indian Creek Fire Fighters, Inc. (ICFF) with the Township Trustee have been transparent - and that transparency continues on our new Webpage, containing all relevant documents pertaining to this debacle. So as not to get into a shouting match or misstate, this same site will respond to allegations made tonight (which our members wrote down), just as we have maintained civility throughout these difficult last 3 ½ months.

It will become apparent as you read the official documents that ICFF was given demands only. We offered negotiation and mediation, and we were rebuffed each time. We were told we would not be paid what was contractually owed for our services if we didn't sign the contract supplement (see HT 2/16). We rightfully refused to sign our building, lease, and equipment over (much less for no cause, on 30-day notice!) because we answer to our membership and our community. In open public meetings, both have twice unanimously affirmed their choices that Indian Creek Fire Fighters not give up the fire station or equipment and not give the lease back to the Township.

We tonight presented the Trustee with petitions containing signatures of 155 local residents who wish us to continue to provide fire protection and EMT services for our neighbors, be they property owners or renters in this or contiguous townships receiving ICFF mutual aid. Clearly, residents of Indian Creek Township do not want their fire services changed.

We have no intention of ceasing operations - effective 12:01 am May 10, we will provide subscription fire services for the residents of our township; we already have 35 contracted subscribers. Talk to us after the meeting for more information, and take our handout, to be distributed as you leave, for the address of our Webpage and this message.

The Trustee has ordered us to vacate the fire station and give her all of our membership's equipment at midnight tomorrow. We will not do so, as we will then be providing subscription fire service, protecting the citizens of our township, and no government official has the right to seize private property in this country without cause and due process.

The Trustee's recent attempts to take our membership's assets have worn heavily on our volunteers, who put their lives at risk for us. The ICFF has no intention of letting them down further, and we stand our ground. Should the Trustee ever, through force and costly lawsuits, take our building and lease and cause us to dissolve our membership-based organization, we will only then dispose of our assets as indicated in our Articles of Incorporation.

Thank you, Indian Creek. We look forward to our continuing public safety and service roles in the community. We serve you!

[www.indiancreekvolunteerfire.org](http://www.indiancreekvolunteerfire.org)