

Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue
Joint Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 23, 2010 – 5:30 p.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room – City of Neenah

Present: Ald. Lange, Ahles, Benner and Stevenson

Excused: Ald. Hendricks and Wisneski

Also Present: Chief Auxier, Director Easker and Administrative Assistant Theisen

Ald. Stevenson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: The Committee reviewed the meeting minutes of February 23, 2010. **MSC Lange/Ahles to approve the meeting minutes of February 23, 2010, all voting aye.**

2009 Year End Budget Report: The Committee reviewed the 2009 year end budget report. The remaining budget dollars for 2009 were \$162,156. Some of this is attributed to the Assistant Chief position being vacant for the last three months of 2009. Chief Auxier also noted that Mayor Scherck had asked all departments to try to reduce any expenditures to try to save money for the 2010 budget. Chief Vander Wyst and DC DeLeeuw reduced the budget by \$38,000 last summer. Director Easker said the auditors are currently conducting their review and once the final audit is completed any excess funds will then be reimbursed to both municipalities. Ald. Stevenson asked if this Committee makes a recommendation to reimburse the monies. Director Easker said it has not been done that way in the past. He also noted that the City of Neenah does not budget for any funds coming back to the City. Ald. Ahles asked how the natural gas and electricity rates amounts ended up having such a large unused amount. Director Easker said when the budget was set \$10,000 should have been taken out of electricity and it was taken out of natural gas instead. It was also based upon the costs of gas and electricity at that time. It was corrected in the 2010 budget process. **MSC Lange/Ahles to accept the 2009 year end budget report on file, all voting aye.**

February 2010 Budget Report: The Committee reviewed the February 2010 monthly budget report. Ald. Stevenson asked about the auto/physical damage insurance. Director Easker said the budget was based upon numbers that were given at the time the budget was set. Ald. Benner asked why the maintenance budget was increased. Chief Auxier said it was increased this year due to the repair work for Quint 32. **MSC Ahles/Lange to accept the February 2010 monthly budget report and place on file, all voting aye.**

February Monthly Activity Report: The Committee reviewed the February 2010 monthly activity report. Discussion was held on whether we charge back any services for ice rescue calls. Chief Auxier said at this time it is not charged back as it is just personnel that are used and we pay these expenses no matter what since they are on duty. He also noted he will discuss this with other municipalities that have ice/water rescue calls and

see how they handle this. **MSC Ahles/Benner to accept the February 2010 monthly activity report and place on file, all voting aye.**

Review of Benefit Offer for Assistant Chief: Chief Auxier discussed the hiring for a replacement of Assistant Chief Prevention/Fire Marshal. We have a tentative offer made to Vernon Green. His hiring will be approved by the Fire Commission at their meeting tomorrow. Chief Auxier also explained that new employees do receive two weeks of vacation, however, they are not able to use it until after one year of service. This candidate did request the ability to have one week of vacation in 2010 and then would have his normal two weeks of vacation in 2011. His accepted salary offer is below midpoint, which is a standard for all new employees. **MSC Benner/Lange to offer one week of vacation in 2010 for Vernon Green to use and then follow the non-representative benefit plan for vacation benefits from 2011 and forward, all voting aye.**

The Committee thanked Alderman Lange for his service on the Committee.

MSC Ahles/Benner to adjourn at 6:05 p.m., all voting aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Auxier
Chief

AA/tt