

Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue
Joint Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting
January 25, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.
Hauser Room – City of Neenah

Present: Ald. Wisneski, Hendricks, Zelinski, Ramos, Stevenson and Ahles.

Ald. Ahles arrived at 5:40 p.m.

Also Present: Chief Auxier, Director Easker, Office Manager Theisen and Aldermanic Candidate Cari Lendrum.

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

December 28, 2010 Meeting Minutes: **MSC Ramos/Wisneski to approve the meeting minutes from December 28, 2010, all voting aye.**

December 2010 Budget Report: The Committee reviewed the December 2010 budget report. Director Easker explained that his Department is in the process of completing all of the year-end items. Ald. Stevenson asked if FVTC has made the appropriate payments for rent and if this will be credited in the line item for the year-end. Director Easker said they bill for the rent and the actual utilities and once they pay it will be credited. Ald. Zelinski questioned the reimbursement for overtime. Chief Auxier said we did receive reimbursement for the special operations overtime. Director Easker explained the final budget audit would be completed in March for the 2010 budget and will be given out after it was completed. **MSC Ramos/Wisneski to accept the December 2010 budget report and place on file, all voting aye.**

December 2010 and Year End Activity Report: The Committee reviewed the December 2010 and 2010 year-end activity reports. Ald. Wisneski questioned how the false alarms are processed for each City. It was noted we turn these reports in on a monthly basis to each City Finance Department. They track the totals and bill out appropriately. **MSC Wisneski/Zelinski to accept the December 2010 activity report and place on file, all voting aye. MSC Wisneski/Zelinski to accept the 2010 year-end activity report and place on file, all voting aye.**

Confined Space Contract: The contract was revised with the Committee's concerns. Chief Auxier said he did discuss the proposed contract with Theda Clark and at this time they have not responded to the proposal. Once we hear back from them, assuming Theda Clark wants to move forward, it will be brought back to this Committee to review and then to the appropriate Councils for consideration.

Dive Team Update: Chief Auxier said there is support from this Committee. He did discuss this with Sheriff Matz and he said that there is no money available for him right now to support maintenance costs for a Dive Team for our Department. Ald. Ramos said it would be hard to fund the start up costs from the County level but maintenance costs

may be easier to fund in the future. Ald. Stevenson expressed concern with the hierarchy of authority for this Dive Team. Discussion was held on how this team would operate. Chief Auxier explained right now we are dispatched for calls and if we are dispatched, regardless of where it is on the lake, we will go to help out. It is hard to figure out the exact lines on navigable waterways. Ald. Ramos asked about the two current boats that we have. Chief Auxier explained that the County owns these two boats and we provide the staff. Discussion was also held on how to structure the team and how calls would be handled when they come in. Chief Auxier will discuss these issues with Sheriff Matz. Ald. Hendricks said he supports the efforts to fund the start up costs for this new team and feels this is something we can work with Winnebago County to fund the future maintenance costs.

Ald. Hendricks excused himself at 6:40 p.m.

MSC Ramos/Ahles recommends the City of Neenah and City of Menasha Common Councils give NMFR permission to proceed with the fundraising efforts for a NMFR Dive Team contingent upon finalizing a formal agreement with Winnebago County recognizing the jurisdictional authority of Winnebago County and ongoing operational and maintenance costs, all voting aye.

Municipal Fire Code Changes: Chief Auxier said we are looking at updating the language to reflect the current codes that we use and to remove codes that are not currently being used. Both City Attorneys have reviewed this and approved these changes.

MSC Wisneski/Zelinski recommends the Menasha Common Council adopt the changes for Chapter 3, Sections 5-3-1, adoption of the Fire Prevention Code, all voting aye.

MSC Ahles/ Ramos recommends the Neenah Common Council adopt Section 7-20, as outlined in the changes for the Fire Prevention codes, as recommended by NMFR, all voting aye.

MSC Ahles/Wisneski to adjourn at 6:45 p.m., all voting aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Auxier
Chief

AA/tt

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