

Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue
Joint Finance & Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes
October 10, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.
1st Floor Conference Room – City of Menasha

Present: Ald. Sevenich, Krueger, Klein, Ahles, Stevenson and Ramos.

Also Present: Chief Auxier, Director Easker, City Attorney Godlewski, City Attorney Captain and Office Manager Theisen.

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

Public Forum: There were no members of the public present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: The Committee reviewed the meeting minutes from September 20, 2011. **MSC Ahles/Krueger to approve the September 20, 2011 meeting minutes, all voting aye and Ald. Ramos abstained.**

Budget Reports: The Committee reviewed the September 2011 budget report. **MSC Ramos/Ahles to approve the September 2011 budget report and place on file, all voting aye.**

Monthly Activity Reports: The Committee reviewed the September 2011 activity report. Chief Auxier did note that we are 110 runs ahead of last year at this time. He also noted that when reviewing the numbers from the past four years the activity has steadily increased over the last four years. **MSC Stevenson/Krueger to approve the September monthly activity report and place on file, all voting aye.**

Review of 2012 Budget: Chief Auxier stated he talked to both Mayors and they were unable to have their budget recommendations available for this meeting. He noted that he is working with the Mayors to remove some capital expenditures in 2012 and push those back to future years to help save money in the 2012 budget. It was noted that the 2012 budget, with the Mayor's recommendations, will be reviewed at the meeting on October 25, 2011.

5:35 p.m. CA Godlewski entered the meeting.

Radio Update: Chief Auxier said Motorola did do testing with Outagamie and Winnebago Counties. The testing has been completed and the issues have been resolved for simulcast dispatching.

Automatic Aid Update: Chief Auxier noted that the updated MDC's have been purchased and installation will begin tomorrow. Once these are installed, and with the radio issues being fixed, we will be able to move forward with the AVL dispatch with Appleton Fire Department. Ald. Krueger asked the projected timeline. Chief Auxier said it should be done by the end of this week. Ald. Krueger asked if we would be able to obtain reports that show the call volumes between the two Cities. Chief Auxier confirmed that we will be able to do that.

Donation of Ambulance From Gold Cross Ambulance: Chief Auxier said Gold Cross Ambulance has approached us and is looking to donate one of their old ambulances to us for our Dive Team. The thought was if we moved forward with accepting this donation we could keep all of the equipment in the ambulance and this could also be used as a changing area, warming area for our members and it would be used to pull the boat for water rescue calls. Information was handed out to the Committee members regarding this vehicle. Chief Auxier noted that he asked Rick Spoo from Neenah City Garage, and our mechanics to look over the vehicle to see what items may have to be fixed. Information was handed out that showed what items do need to be fixed and the estimated costs for this. Estimated cost would be around \$2,000. It would be to put in new batteries, add a trailer hitch and some cooling changes so it can tow the boat. The vehicle would need to be repainted and this would be around \$3,000 - \$4,000. Total estimated costs would be around \$6,000. The recommendation by Rick Spoo and the mechanics is that there is a lot of life left in the ambulance and felt the investment we would have to make to get the vehicle ready for use would be a good thing for us. He also noted that the suburban that currently tows the boat would be removed from towing the boat and used as an Inspector's Vehicle. If we do this, it would be a safer vehicle for the Inspectors to respond to emergency incidents and we do not have to replace the inspector's vehicle (small Saturn car) as it is budgeted in the current capital expenditures. Due to many electrical issues with the current Inspector's Vehicle (Saturn) we were looking at replacing this vehicle in 2012. Ald. Klein asked if there is room for Dive Team members to be seated in the vehicle for calls. Chief Auxier stated there are seatbelts and it could carry members of the Dive Team for calls, along with towing the boat. Ald. Ahles asked if we could take it onto the ice. Chief Auxier said we do not take any vehicles onto the ice. Ald. Krueger said he thought this is a great idea and saves us money from purchasing a new vehicle. Chief Auxier said we would use a combination of Dive Team donations and maintenance funds in our existing budget for the money we would need to spend on the vehicle. Ald. Ahles said we should find out what the cost of the ambulance is and what the cost of potential replacement of this vehicle is in the future so this can be planned for. He noted that a vehicle for the Dive Team was not part of an original discussion when we did look at putting together the Dive Team. It is estimated that this vehicle is to last 10-15 years due to the limited amount of miles of our usage. **MSC Ald. Krueger/Ramos recommends the City of Neenah and City of Menasha Common Council's approve the donation of the ambulance from Gold Cross Ambulance to Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue, and approved appropriate costs for maintenance and repainting, for use by their Dive Team, all voting aye.**

The open session meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Al Auxier
Chief

AA/tt