

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

January 5, 2012

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Burtle  
Alderman Koonce  
Alderman Heberling  
Alderman Jones

### ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Brotherton  
Police Chief Herpstreith  
Deputy Police Chief Hile  
Chief Hackney

Assistant Fire Chief Crews  
Alderman Walters  
Shirley Sams

Chairman Burtle called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

### HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MITIGATION

Assistant Fire Chief Mike Crews was in attendance to answer any questions the Committee had concerning the Hazardous Materials Mitigation. He explained that in case of a catastrophic disaster the City would receive recovery funds to rebuild infrastructure as it is now but if the City had a Hazardous Materials Mitigation Plan adopted and a disaster would occur the City would receive the funds to rebuild infrastructures differently to make stronger to better withstand another disaster. For example, Joplin, Mo which was almost completely destroyed by tornados had a plan in place and received money for recovery and will receive millions of dollars to rebuild stronger infrastructures to better withstand this type of disaster.

Assistant Fire Chief Crews explained if Taylorville adopts the Hazardous Materials Mitigation Plan and the Fire Department is destroyed by a disaster and the City decides to build a stronger infrastructure which costs \$100,000.00 more than the cost of rebuilding the present building the City has to contribute \$25,000.00 towards the cost. The City is not obligated to rebuild a stronger building by adopting this plan, but by adopting the plan it gives the City the **choice** to rebuild a stronger building with most of the cost being covered by grants. If the City could not finance the additional costs the building would be built as it was. He was asked if there would be any cost to the City to implement the plan; he advised “no” that all fees associated with the development of this plan were absorbed by the County.

Alderman Heberling had a list of questions which Assistant Fire Chief Crews addressed; he asked how close this plan was to implementing and was advised the County, IEMA and FEMA have all adopted the plan. Taylorville and Palmer are the only two County Communities left, Palmer is adopting at their next meeting on January 9<sup>th</sup>. He advised there were 11 Jurisdictions involved.

Once the City adopts the plan Assistant Fire Chief Crews will submit to IEMA who will then forward to FEMA. The plan will have to be updated periodically by meeting with all the jurisdictions involved to keep the list up to date.

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Heberling to recommend to the City Council to approve the Christian County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Motion carried 4-0.

### FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- The Angel Tree Program delivered Christmas gifts to over 300 area children and food baskets to 125 families this year. Captain Smith headed this program again this year and all of the firefighters helped in the organizing, wrapping, and delivering. This is the 22<sup>nd</sup>

year for this program. This is the last year Captain Smith is heading the program; the Committee wants to extend a congratulations to Captain Smith for the success of the Angel Tree Program which he has been in charge of since approximately 1991; he was also active in the Christmas for Kids Program which was a program sponsored by Liberty Mutual Insurance and the Fire Department before the Angel Tree Program.

- The “Keep the Wreath Red” program was once again successful; there were no holiday related fires which Chief Hackney advised the public education programs are working.
- Gave an overview of the fire prevention activity list which was provided by Firefighter Matthew Adermann. He reported his records can account for the Department reaching 1,570 people (Pre-School to Senior Citizens) during the fire prevention activities in 2011. The Fire Department had Fire Safety/Extinguisher Classes to over 400 residents; they also talked with 348 children in one week during the annual fire prevention week activities.
- The Department is still short one Firefighter due to the retirement of Captain Nicol and one firefighter is off work with an injury. Chief Hackney presented a sheet indicating the shift overtime costs for the year. The costs were very low for the year except for December. The shift schedules had to be rotated due to the shortage of personnel, vacation time, and schedule changes for the new year and ALS Upgrade which caused an increase in Shift Overtime during the last two weeks in December. He expects the injured firefighter to return to work soon.
- Total 2011 Calls: 1,510

### **SQUAD CAR FLEET**

Police Chief Herpstreith and Deputy Chief Hile were present to discuss the condition of the fleet cars. The current fleet consists of 11 marked patrol units, 2 unmarked units, 1 K-9 Unit, 1 Detective and 2 Administrative. The marked patrol units consist of one unit which was purchased last summer through a federal grant which has low miles, 2 units have between 40,000 and 50,000 miles, two units between 60,000 and 70,000 miles, three units between 70,000 and 80,000 miles and one with 88,000 miles and two units over 100,000 miles. The unmarked units, the 2005 Chevy Tahoe, which was a seized vehicle, has over 150,000 miles and the 2005 Mercury Sable has over 70,000 miles.

The Committee was presented information from Todd Crews of Bob Ridings Ford for 2011 Ford Crown Victoria and a 2013 Ford Police Interceptor 4 door Sedan w/ all-wheel drive.

Chief Herpstreith advised he has discussed purchasing a new squad vehicle with City Treasurer France. She informed him that if the Council decides that the vehicle or vehicle(s) are definitely needed by the officers, she would pursue getting interest rate quotes from local banks with the possibility of a better rate than the Ford Motor Credit program. She can't predict if the City's sales tax and other revenues will remain steady, but spreading payments over three years will help with the cash flow if revenues would decline.

He also advised the department has two vehicles they would like to use as a trade in towards the purchase of new vehicles for the fleet, the 2005 Mercury and the 2006 Ford Taurus. He stated these vehicles were not designed to be utilized the way they are being used and estimated that the trade in value for the 2006 Taurus at \$4,000.00. Chief Herpstreith advised he recommends purchasing the 2013 Ford Police Interceptor because of the all-wheel drive. They would like to purchase an unmarked vehicle stating it would be beneficial and would save approximately \$2,000.00. Deputy Chief Hile discussed the importance of having an unmarked vehicle in the fleet, which resulted in a lot of discussion from the Aldermen on the pros and cons of both. Some feel that the residents feel more secure when they actually see the patrol cars around town.

Chief Herpstreith stated the cost of the equipment would have to come out of the equipment line if purchased through the Ford Motor Credit Program, whereas if financed locally, that cost can be added to the cost of the vehicle.

Deputy Chief Hile advised if the vehicle is ordered now it would not be delivered until April or May. There was a question regarding the warranty on the 2013 Ford Police Interceptor; it comes with a 3 year/36,000 mile warranty with 5 year 100,000 mile powertrain warranty. After much discussion Chairman Burtle recommended making two separate motions.

Chairman Burtle asked if there is a report which indicates repairs made on each vehicle. He was informed Mayor Brotherton had created a spreadsheet when he was the Police Chief which they still use and that Bob Ridings Ford can print a report of repairs which is posted by VIN numbers.

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Heberling to recommend to the City Council to allow the Police Department to purchase one unmarked 2013 Ford Interceptor from Bob Ridings Ford and to install all needed equipment at a total cost not to exceed \$34,400.00. Motion carried 4-0.

Motion by Alderman Koonce and seconded by Alderman Burtle to recommend to the City Council to allow the Police Department to purchase one marked 2013 Ford Interceptor from Bob Ridings Ford and to install all needed equipment at a total cost not to exceed \$37,000.00. Motion 2-2.

### **POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- The Chief advised there were 19,600 calls for service for 2011; he and Deputy Chief Hile are in the process of writing a report to forward to the local media to inform the public of some of the activities of the Police Department in 2011.
- Monthly Statistics from 12/1-12/28 Calls for Service 1,204
- The Department is still experiencing problems with their software.
- The Christmas Program Shop with a Cop was a success.
- There will be CPR training done in January.
- The Department is going to be down three Police Officers which will cause an increase in overtime.

### **ANY OTHER MATTERS**

The Department will receive 29 weapons for free; all they have to pay is the cost of shipping which is the cost of one weapon.

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Koonce to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

---

Shawn Burtle, Chairman  
Emergency Services Committee