

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

August 4, 2016

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Alderman Burtle  
Alderman Jones  
Alderman Heberling  
Alderman Olive

### ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Brotherton  
Police Chief Herpstreith  
Assistant Fire Chief Goodall  
Alderman Budd  
Alderman Walters  
Alderman Vota

Owen Lasswell  
Cindy Dey  
Luke McLeod  
Dustin McClure  
Frank Prochaska  
Kirsten Nelson  
Shirley Sams

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

### ENGINE 1 REPAIR

Assistant Fire Chief Goodall received a claim form from the City's insurance carrier, Travelers, for the repairs needed to be made to the 2011 KME Rescue Pumper Fire Truck which was damaged due to the driver swerving during a rain storm to miss a car and went in the ditch. The total cost of repairs totaled \$12,034.42; the City has a \$1,000.00 deductible. The Committee asked if the frame on the truck had been checked to make sure it wasn't damaged; Assistant Fire Chief Goodall advised everything was checked and there was no other damage. He was advised the City has a tax exempt number and shouldn't have been charged tax; Assistant Fire Chief Goodall will notify them to get the price adjusted.

Motion by Alderman Heberling and seconded by Alderman Jones to recommend to the City Council to allow Assistant Fire Chief Goodall to have the 2011 KME Rescue Pumper Fire Truck repaired by Piercy Auto Body Inc. at a cost of \$12,034.42 with the City being responsible for the \$1,000.00 deductible and the City's insurance carrier, Travelers, paying the remainder. Motion carried 4-0.

### REPROGRAMMING MOTOROLA RADIOS

The Motorola radios that were purchased from a grant from the Fire Marshall's Office four years ago need to be reprogrammed to work with the new system; the cost to upgrade the radios is \$7,442.00 which includes a two year parts and labor warranty. The firefighters like these radios as they are easy to operate with their gloves on and are waterproof; to purchase new the cost would be \$5,000.00 each. Assistant Fire Chief Goodall advised Wireless USA and Global Tech have assured them that these two systems should all interoperate.

Motion by Alderman Olive and seconded by Alderman Jones to recommend to the City Council to allow Assistant Fire Chief Goodall to have the Motorola radios reprogrammed by Wireless USA at a cost of \$7,442.80. Motion carried 4-0.

### APPROVAL OF ACADEMY FOR TWO FIREFIGHTERS

Assistant Fire Chief Goodall advised the Committee the hiring of a replacement Firefighter is on the Personnel Agenda which is following this meeting. The new Firefighter hired in April has accepted a position in Decatur; his last day here is August 28<sup>th</sup>. The Firefighter that was hired in June has not attended Academy yet; he went to paramedic school first. Mayor Brotherton asked his name as it makes it easier to keep track of who and when they attended Academy; his name is Nicholas Zepin.

Assistant Fire Chief Goodall recommended sending two Firefighters to Academy at one time to save on costs; the savings on room/board and mileage would be \$5,569.20. He advised the Academy will start September 6<sup>th</sup>. If a replacement Firefighter is approved by Council, he will contact Mr. Steiner of the Fire and Police Commission to find out who the person on the top of the list is to offer employment. The Committee made two motions since the cost will depend on whether or not the replacement Firefighter is approved. Alderman

Heberling advised he would be voting no on this as the Personnel Committee has a temporary hiring freeze on their agenda.

The Committee asked if the City would be reimbursed for the training expenses for the firefighter that is leaving. Assistant Fire Chief Goodall advised no as he had already attended the Academy before he was hired.

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Olive to recommend to the City Council to allow Firefighter Nicholas Zepin to attend the Academy at a cost not to exceed \$9,000.00. Motion carried 4-0.

or

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Olive to recommend to the City Council to allow two firefighters to attend Academy at a cost not to exceed \$14,000.00 upon approval from the Personnel Committee to hire a replacement firefighter. Motion carried 3-1.

### **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Total Calls-136
- Training- Rit/Mayday, Fire Investigations, Self-Rescue and Salvage Covers
- Three completed Paramedic program, the State Certification exam is within the next month. Upon certification 14 of 17 total personnel will be Paramedics. (4 out of 5 of the final eligibility list are already Paramedics).
- The new ambulance purchased by the Fire Protection District has been ordered and should be here by Christmas
- There has been a 9% call increase this year over last, he presented the Committee with a handout outlining the multiple alarm calls received within 30 minutes since January 1, 2016

Assistant Fire Chief Goodall advised the Department had two major structure fires the Southern Baptist Church and P.S. Printing; the Department experienced two injuries one was a knee and one was treated for heat exhaustion but no loss time. He advised Captain Adermann did an outstanding job at the P.S. Printing site as he manned the Taylorville Fire Department and five other entities that provided mutual aid. Mayor Brotherton also commended the Fire Department and all other responders for a job well done as it was contained; it could have been a lot worse.

Public Education Activities for the month of July-Taylorville Fire Department members installed five car seats, taught CPR and installed three smoke alarms and one carbon monoxide alarm for the public. Participated in the Fourth of July Parade and spent a considerable amount of time at the fair.

He reported they saved someone who was having a heart attack at Matrix on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Matrix has cameras which enabled them to watch the whole incident on videotape. They were able to regain a pulse on him before he left the scene to be transported to the hospital.

The Committee asked if the firefighter leaving had paramedic training, if so he will be required to reimburse the City; Assistant Fire Chief Goodall advised he thinks he paid his own way but will check with Fire Chief Crews. He was then asked if he was paid his wages while he attended class, this needs to be addressed in the contract as this should be reimbursed also. Assistant Fire Chief Goodall was asked why the two departments are having such a turn over; he advised in this case the Firefighter was leaving for a \$23,000.00 annual increase. Chairman Burtle stated you can't belittle the firefighter for bettering himself but the number of new hire Firefighters and Police Officers that have passed through Taylorville as a stepping stone is getting into the double digits; stating the bigger cities are benefiting from the City paying for their training. He advised here are some fees that have to be reimbursed if the new hires leave in a certain amount of time which is in the current

contracts. He will contact City Attorney Romano to ask whether or not the City can add additional fees to be reimbursed in the contract to help recoup some of these expenses; such as their wages while attending class.

Police Chief Herpstreith advised his Department only has to pay approximately \$500.00-\$600.00 per Police Officer to attend the Academy; the State pays for theirs. Chairman Burtle asked if Police Chief Herpstreith could bring the actual amount of what he has had to pay for a new Officer to the next Emergency Services Committee Meeting.

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

- Calls for Service-1541
- Total Cases-70
- Total Arrests-31
- Traffic Citations- Traffic Stops-90 Advised stops are down due to extra activities and less manpower
- Numerous Drug Cases
- Made several stops for inspections at the firework displays within the City to make sure everyone was in compliance.

Police Chief Herpstreith presented the Committee with a staff report stating they are at critical numbers again as he has had to cut the number of Officers on shifts and he has one Officer that just started Academy. He asked that they all review this information as he will address this problem in the future.

He congratulated Police Officer Chase Dickey and Police Officer Wes Withrow who were recently recognized by the Alliance against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) for their exceptional DUI enforcement.

### **ANY OTHER MATTERS**

Chairman Burtle asked Police Chief Herpstreith if there have been any trespassing issues because of the game Pokémon everyone is playing. He's had people old and young sitting on his porch across from the church between 4:00 A.M-6:00 A.M to get something from the St. Mary's Catholic Church regarding Pokémon; he didn't have a problem with them sitting there but wondered if others have.

Motion by Alderman Heberling and seconded by Alderman Olive to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

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Shawn Burtle, Chairman  
Emergency Services Committee