

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

October 6, 2016

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Alderman Burtle  
Alderman Jones  
Alderman Heberling  
Alderman Olive

### ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Brotherton  
Fire Chief Crews  
Assistant Fire Chief Goodall  
Shirley Sams

Alderman Dorchinecz  
Alderman Budd  
Ron Smith  
Matt Peters  
Lee Lanzotti

Chairman Burtle called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

### TWO ADDITIONAL FIREFIGHTER VOLUNTEERS

Fire Chief Crews advised the Committee he is asking permission to approve two new Volunteer Firefighters subject to passing physicals.

Motion by Alderman Heberling and seconded by Alderman Jones to recommend to the City Council to approve Elliott Hogge and Blake Chausse as Volunteer Firefighters. Motion carried 4-0.

### MANPOWER RETENTION PROPOSAL

Fire Chief Crews presented members of the Committee with his proposals concerning the Taylorville Fire/Police Department Employment Longevity and Staffing for Taylorville Fire Department Response. He stated the Department's median age is approximately 36 years old; he is concerned what the impact of the new firefighters going through Academy then leaving is having on his Department as far as experience and maturity. He advised there is a possibility of losing two more to Decatur and Champaign; he was asked of the last five firefighters that have left how many were from Taylorville, only one.

He advised he thinks the answers to the problems of retaining the new hires is included in the materials he has presented stating money isn't the only problem; this information is 99% his views and it may not be well accepted but it is his job to inform the Committee of his concerns regarding the wellbeing of his Department as well as the residents public safety. He conducted exit interviews and they speak well of the Department but their ambitions and residency requirements are taking them elsewhere. Alderman Olive advised he has read the material provided, it is a well written document and recommended everyone read to be able to discuss at a later date. Fire Chief Crews read the Committee the following statement from the front of the document.

\*\*There was no influence from any member of the firefighters union regarding the content of this report. His information was derived from local Fire Chiefs, representatives from the Illinois Fire Service Institute, objective data from the Occupational Health and Safety Administration, International Association of Firefighters, National Fire Protection Association and Human Resource Managers. However, it is important to understand much, if not all of this content are mandatory subjects of bargaining. This report is a start of what must be a discussion of the involved parties, not just his own thoughts and observations.

Alderman Jones asked the Committee to read the material as it will be discussed at next month's meeting. Fire Chief Crews advised he will notify Acting Police Chief Hile that the proposal will be discussed at next month's meeting.

### FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- Total Calls- 119
- Training Report- Air Systems, Vehicle Maintenance, Engine Operations, Work Detail for Senior Academy, IPRF Driving Simulator, Senior Academy Demonstrations

- Ronald McDonald has been at the Fire Station for Fire Prevention Week there have been several hundred come through.
- There is a grant opportunity through the Christian County Health Department for head lighting, training on night searches, and an infrared camera to install on the Department's drone.
- 9/27 field fire in Stonington had no personnel in the village to respond; 10/4 there was a grain semi rollover with entrapment in Stonington, Taylorville responded as first due.
- Participated in Pana Hospital Decontamination Class
- Participated in a Springfield Airport Disaster Drill
- Reported he helped Pana in applying for a grant which they received

### **ANY OTHER MATTERS**

Fire Chief Crews showed a visual presentation of some of the Department's activities of the month, which he plans to do each month. He advised the Department received a grant for a new defibrillator worth \$25,000.00 which he brought to show the Committee.

Mayor Brotherton advised Captain Dunn was being deployed to help with the damages from Hurricane Matthew.

There was discussion regarding the missing person search. Fire Chief Crews advised how well all the Departments worked together, thanking all for their assistance.

Fire Chief Crews advised he has contacted Walgreens and has received permission to put severe storm warnings and times associated with the storm on their billboards; he plans to contact all owners with boards to get permission to use.

Motion by Alderman Jones and seconded by Alderman Olive to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 P.M.

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Shawn Burtle, Chairman  
Emergency Services Committee