

**Village Board Fire Public Safety Committee
~ Re-Scheduled Meeting ~
MINUTES**

~ Thursday, June 17, 2021 ~

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Guzzo called the blended meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Gunter, Clerk Szymiski, Trustee Barker, Trustee Brady, Trustee Guzzo, Trustee Liddle, Trustee Simonovich (5:15 p.m.), Village Manager May, Fire Chief Riley and Finance Director Parker.

ALSO PRESENT

Deputy Chief Connolly, Deputy Fire Chief Fitzgerald, EMS Director Dralle, Public Works Director Ramsey and Communications Assistant Babyar.

ABSENT

Trustee Nero

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

Village Manager May advised beginning on July 1, 2021 online public comments would no longer be permitted due to Covid restrictions lessening. All public comments will need to be made in person at the meetings.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 22, 2021 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Trustee Liddle made a motion, seconded by Trustee Barker to approve the April 22, 2021 Public Safety Committee Minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE CHIEF RECOGNITION AWARDS

Fire Chief Riley presented a Fire Department Recognition Award to resident Giavanna Mucha in recognition of outstanding actions exhibited on May 25, 2021. Giavanna was quick to notice a small fire in plants near her home at 207 S. Warwick and quickly notified her parents. The fire was a result of ComEd work in the area. Both Giavanna and her parents' prompt actions allowed for the fire to be extinguished quickly.

Fire Chief Riley presented Fire Department Recognition Awards to residents Taylor Callarman and Nicole Powers for their outstanding actions taken relating to the 2 W. Burlington structure on May 9, 2021. Upon being alerted by the smoke alarm Taylor and Nicole quickly took action. Nicole was able to unlock the vacant unit door and Taylor used a fire extinguisher to put out the fire. Without their quick actions the fire may have been much worse. Mrs. Callarman, Taylor's Mother, was present to accept the awards and Taylor and Nicole were unable to attend. She indicated Taylor's girlfriend, Brittany, also opened windows, knocked on doors as well as saving two dogs. She said she was very proud of all of their actions.

ACDC FIRE ALARM UPDATE

Fire Chief Riley provided an update on fire alarm monitoring services provided by the Addison Consolidated Dispatch Center (ACDC) as discussed at the April 21, 2021 meeting. The Addison Fire Protection District has decided to continue fire alarm monitoring services through ACDC for the current time being.

Westmont Fire Department staff has reached out to ACDC requesting a long term fire alarm monitoring plan. Westmont's current fire alarm monitoring agreement is in effect for the next two years and cost increases should not take effect until the agreement expires. In the event ACDC becomes cost prohibitive or discontinues fire alarm monitoring services, services could be transferred to Norcomm's facility in Leyden. Norcomm is also in the process of constructing a new building in Rosemont. Fire Chief Riley said per the contract, ACDC would provide a 90 day notice in the event fire alarm monitoring services were to be discontinued. Trustee Guzzo asked if more than 90 days could be given, Chief Riley to follow up with ACDC.

Fire Chief Riley said discussion was held at the November 5, 2020 meeting pertaining to increasing Norcomm Public Safety Communications wireless alarm fees \$5 from \$70 to \$75 per month beginning January 2021. At that time direction was given to delay the increase due to Covid financial impacts and to review again in six months. After discussion, the consensus was that the \$5 fee increase be delayed until January 1, 2022.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT (IGA) UPDATE

Fire Chief Riley advised that intergovernmental agreements (IGA) have been drafted with the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District, Tri-State Fire Protection District, Clarendon Hills Fire Department, Downers Grove Fire Department and the Oak Brook Fire Department. The IGA's have not been updated since 2014 and contain outdated dispatch centers, etc. The IGA's are also required for ISO and Accreditation purposes. Village Attorney Zemenak reviewed each document and staff forwarded to each agency

for review and adoption. Fire Chief Riley said staff plans on presenting signed agreements for approval and adoption in July.

Fire Chief Riley advised a MABAS 10 task force was sent to the Rockton, Illinois fire incident. A five man crew consisting of BC Little, FM Busche, FM Ceniti, FM Clark, FM Jansen along with Chief Riley traveled to assist with the chemical plant explosion/fire incident. WFD crews were moved to the scene and primarily observed operations. The company brought in a Louisiana chemical company to bring the crude oil fire under control. It was a great opportunity to witness a large-scale incident and represent Westmont.

CANDIDATE PROGRAM UPDATE

Fire Chief Riley said Village Attorney Zemenak is currently working on the Firefighter Candidate job description and hopes to have it completed in the next couple of weeks. A total of five candidates will be sponsored through the fire academy through Westmont. Fire Chief Riley said the Firefighter Candidate program has been very successful in the past with retaining many members going through it. He thanked the Public Safety Committee for their continued support.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MANNING UPDATE

Fire Chief Riley advised the current roster consists of 58 fire department members. Of the 58 members there are currently five off on a leave of absence and two additional members have just requested leaves. Staff may need to conduct another hiring process and bring on additional members in the fall. Staff is still able to man all vehicles with several members currently attending required FAE classes. Trustee Barker questioned waiting until the fall if there currently is a staffing need. Fire Chief Riley said summer months tend to be tougher to fill shifts as well as hire due to family vacations, etc. Staff is continually watching schedules to ensure adequate staffing and feels comfortable at the current time. Trustee Guzzo thanked Fire Chief Riley for continuing to keep the Public Safety Committee updated on staffing needs and suggested including an update on every agenda.

ECC UPDATE

Fire Chief Riley advised the current ECC at the Police Department is in the process of being fully decommissioned. The Fire Chief Riley, Police Chief Gunther and Public Works Director Ramsey to discuss utilizing space at the new Public Works Facility to house an ECC. Staff feels the location would work as it's a secure facility and protected from severe weather. Funds may be requested in the next budget to install radios along with an EOC. IT Manager Liljeberg and Deputy Chief Connolly would be involved in the planning process in the event the project moves forward.

HOMEBOUND VACCINATION PROGRAM

EMS Director Dralle said the Westmont Fire Department participated in the Homebound Vaccination Program organized by DuPage County. Two visit dates were held with a total of five residents receiving the Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccination. She indicated that the patients were extremely thankful for the service. With prior approval staff also traveled to Willowbrook and Clarendon Hills to administer vaccinations. These two communities were unable to participate in the Homebound Vaccination Program. Fire Chief Riley said EMS Director Dralle was able to train 13 department members on how to administer the vaccine and feels this is a great service to the community. To date a total of 12 vaccinations have been administered by the Westmont Fire Department.

AUTOMATED CPR BOARDS

EMS Director Dralle discussed the Zoll AutoPulse automated CPR boards utilized by the Fire Department. She indicated the current units are approximately three years old and have experienced repeated maintenance issues. A representative from Zoll is attempting to replace the existing equipment and provide additional training to ensure all members know how to appropriately use each machine. In the event the issues cannot be resolved, staff would like to pursue the purchase of Lucas automated machines to replace the Zoll units. EMS Director Dralle said several area departments currently utilize Lucas and are pleased with the unit. Quotes were obtained from Lucas totalling \$44,000 for three units and \$28,000 for two units. The quote includes a four year warranty. Direction was given to forward information to Finance Director Parker for further consideration and review.

There being no other business to discuss, Trustee Liddle motioned to adjourn, to which Trustee Barker seconded. The meeting subsequently adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hardy
Recording Secretary