

**Village Board Fire Public Safety Committee
~ Regular Meeting ~
MINUTES**

~ Thursday, September 8, 2022 ~

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Mayor Gunter, Clerk Szymiski, Village Manager May, Trustee Barker, Trustee Brady, Trustee Guzzo, Trustee Liddle, Trustee Nero, FPB Director Berkowitz, Assistant Village Manager Parker, Fire Chief Riley, Trustee Simonovich.

ALSO PRESENT

D/C Gruen, Human Resources Manager Brainerd, Community Development Director Sylvester, Interim Public Works Director Wucki-Rossbach, Building Commissioner Jason Vitell, Director Forssberg, Administrative Assistant Moore, and Administrative Assistant Saldivar.

ABSENT

D/C Fitzgerald, D/C O'Hare, Police Chief Gunther, Communications Director McIntyre, Communications Specialist Babyar.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was received.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 2, 2022 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Trustee Barker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Liddle, to approve the June 2, 2022 Public Safety Committee Minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDI DEALERSHIP FIRE - DIGITAL VIDEO RECAP

- Chief Riley presented a digital video of the 30 bay vehicle facility at the Audi dealership, 2 story parking garage at 276 E. Ogden fire that was dispatched at 11:26 pm on August 3, 2022.
- Chief Riley proceeded to explain the series of events and described the environment during the fire to convey the importance of the mandated Fire Suppression Sprinkler system.
- Some of the SWOT analysis sections that were mentioned from Chief Riley were:
 - Weakness/challenges:

- Alert Codes/Dispatching - The fire initially came in as an AFA which was later upgraded to a structural fire.
 - Access to the unit was challenging due to the unique layout of the unit including unique service pits, KNOX box entering, and additional security chains and locks on gates.
 - Elevated vehicles on lifts
 - 10-15 min entrance time
- Strengths:
 - Responding crews utilized the TIC to locate elevated cars, sprinkler patterns, etc. More TIC devices were ordered.
 - Incident assessment and risk planning by the crew
 - The lieutenant provided great vision to the crew about unit set up, bay layout and expectations.
 - Additional fire department support from surrounding area departments and additional Westmont leadership relief
 - Vast knowledge of the building sprinkler system
 - Building plan review
- Threats:
 - Incorrect dispatch fire coding from a regular fire to a structural fire which follows a different SOP.
 - Uncommon combustible battery composites
 - KNOX box padlocks and chains
 - Unable to quickly enter the unit
- Questions during the presentation:
 - Mayor Gunter asked about the diagram access to each individual business.
 - Chief Riley responded and quoted that each Battalion has access to building diagrams, pre-plans that have information such as Knox box location, fire alarm system, gas meter, keys etc. via the CAD system.
 - Trustee Barker asked about additional fire suppression and how the fire started.
 - Chief Riley explained that the fire was electrical in nature and the other fire was the same from inside the car wash bay. They used a dry chemical extinguishing agent.

ISO - INSURANCE SERVICE OFFICE UPDATE

- The Fire Department concluded the Accreditation program. Currently, the Fire Department is in the beginning stage of planning for ISO visit, this is being spearheaded by D/C Fitzgerald.
- The ISO evaluation will happen on Monday, December 5, 2022.
- Chief Riley mentioned that the process of ISO Class 1 will be challenging but with the proper support from the different departments within the village, including ACDC, the process will go fluidly.

- Questions during the presentation:
 - Mayor Gunter asked how long ago was our last ISO review and what would be inspected?
 - Chief Riley responded, “The review is normally every 3-5 years.” The last ISO review was 7 years due to external delays. All Fire department personnel, vehicles, data, community environment, mutual aid, infrastructures etc.
 - Trustee Liddle asked how long is the process
 - Chief Riley responded “ 2 full days”

BRYCER- The Compliance Engine:

- FPB Director Berkowitz expressed the importance of the Fire Prevention Bureau inspections and reports. He mentioned a percentage of the inspections have deficiencies and are not rectified because of the lack of manpower to keep track of the deficient sprinkler and fire inspections.
- The need for the Brycer system is critical to reduce the number of deficient inspection reports and to increase community safety.
- The Brycer system is a reporting system that will alert the business when their next inspection is due with alerts, reminders and fee citation letters. It also has a repository of reports for easy viewing.
- There is no cost to the village, however, the charge is passed to the business owner via fees that the business owner is already paying for.
- The contract will be presented to the Village Manager for approval.
- Questions during the presentation:
 - Mayor Gunter asked “Does the department have the authority to close a business?” Are there MOU’s (memorandums of understanding) still being processed?
 - Director Berkowitz said “Yes” - However missing reports would not be a cause to mandate a shut down for a business. The objective is to keep the public safe in the building and to work with the business owner(s) to get the business up to village standards.
 - Chief Riley mentioned updates for the 4 businesses that are currently on the MOU list.
 - Trustee Nero asked if the businesses are allowed to use their own inspection company.
 - Chief Riley explained that they can use their choice of inspection vendor however the vendor should submit reporting via BRYCER’s reporting system.

CODE UPDATE - RATINGS:

- FPB Director Berkowitz presented the village board with the “**Selected summary of changes Westmont Municipal Code Sec. 42-186 Proposed Test amendments related to code updates**” handout.
 - The handout is a list of 11 code amendments proposed for edit approval from the board. The primary objective of the code adoption is to maintain high stands of fire and life safety and provide clear guidance for property owners and contractors.
 - Director Berkowitz proceeded to go through each code that should be amended from the handout.
- Spray on Intumescent paint rating update:
 - Director Berkowitz researched/surveyed 13 different jurisdictions in

DuPage County. 6 jurisdictions go by the unamended codes that don't require additional coating.

- 6 jurisdictions has an increased level of 1-3 hours of fire wall barrier coding
- 1 jurisdiction has the most restrictive fire resistance rating of structure shall be 2 hours.

FIRE DEPARTMENT 100th ANNIVERSARY

- Chief Riley solidified the date of Saturday, October 14, 2023 11am to 3pm in combination with the Fire Prevention Open House
- The event will conclude after Open House with a BBQ, family picnic and water fights.
- The committee is working diligently on these events to make it a success

EMS - LUCAS DEVICE UPDATE

- Chief Riley is looking for approval from the board to move forward in purchasing 2 or 3 LUCAS devices.
 - If 3 devices are purchased, the total amount, including maintenance, will be \$46,693.26 with a trade-in credit of \$3,600.00 for the AutoPulse.
 - If 2 devices are purchased, the total cost will be \$31,269.34.
- Addison Fire Protection District is willing to purchase the old devices for \$5,000.00.
- Chief Riley shared the comparison statistics of LUCAS v/s AutoPulse devices this year so far:
 - LUCAS - 19 full cardiac arrests and revived 4 (May 1, 2022 - August 10, 2022)
 - AutoPulse - 39 full cardiac arrests and revived 3 (January 1, 2022 - April 30, 2022)

Conclusion

- Board members agreed to move forward to purchase in the budget and were impressed with the presentation last meeting.

UPDATES

- Staffing
 - Chief Riley along with DC O'hare as agreed to change the hiring structure with recruitment and retention with HR's guidance and is going very well.
 - As of today the roster has 63 members as well as
 - 6 new cadets.
 - Onboarding September 14, 2022
 - October 3, 2022 at Romeoville Fire Academy for 2 months and 1 week.
 - 1st of January 2023 EMT school
 - Graduating and added to the department roster April 2023.
 - A few personnel are absent from the department for various reasons.
- New Ambulance
 - November 2022 ETA

- Another new Ambulance was ordered for 2024.
- The vehicle incurred a 40% markup due to the state of the economy and scarce parts.
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- Squad 183
 - Is still being refurbished down in Mokena.
- New Vehicles
 - New Tower Ladder is still on target to be completed and inservice in April 2023.
 - A new order request for a new engine for 2024 should be ordered as soon as possible before another rate increase. Lead time is 2 years for the new engine.
 - No status on the 2 Ford Explorers, Virgil from Fleet waiting on updates also.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Open House-
 - Will be held on September 24th 11:00am - 2:00pm at the Fire Headquarters 6015 S. Cass.
 - Many amazing vendors, food and community activities.
- Silent parade
 - TBD - Chief Riley contacted Downers Grove chief and is unsure if the parade will return this year.

There being no other business to discuss, Trustee Liddle motioned to adjourn, to which Trustee Nero seconded. The meeting subsequently adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
La Trecia Moore
Recording Secretary