

BROOKLYN FIRE & EMS DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES 3/22/17

Meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by President Mark O'Brien. Members present were Kim Gruebling, Pat Hawkey, John Marx, and Jim Lunde. Also present were Tom Bowers, Dan Dean and Joanne Van Norman.

Motion: Gruebling/Hawkey to approve minutes of 2/15/2017 minutes. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

Rex Tilley, Town of Brooklyn, stated that he is running for Town Board and expressed his displeasure with the recent actions of the Village of Brooklyn regarding the Brooklyn Fire/EMS District Agreement. He felt it had caused a lot of turmoil.

Wayne Ace, Town of Oregon Chairman, thanked the Board and Townships, Village for getting the agreement issues resolved. He felt everyone worked together very well and we have a good product that we can move forward with.

Update on BFEPD agreement – Marx asked if this Board needed to approve anything. Only the municipalities need to approve. Wayne Ace will contact the Clerks to set up a time to get all the required signatures after all the municipalities have approved it.

Motion: Marx/Lunde to acknowledge the letter received from the Village of Brooklyn attorney dated 12/21/2016 with the understanding that O'Brien and Marx will respond with a letter that Marx will draft. He and O'Brien will sign the letter. If any other Board Member wishes to sign it, they should inform the District Clerk/Treasurer. The letter specifically stated that the District Board had acted illegally and he personally felt that this needed to be addressed. Motion carried with O'Brien, Lunde, Marx and Gruebling voting yes and Hawkey voting no.

Gruebling asked if the Village will be rescinding their withdrawal from the Fire District now that there is a new agreement. Hawkey stated that there would be a letter from the Village after the new agreement has been signed and is in effect.

Hawkey stated that there will be a letter coming from the Village stating that there would be no fines for the Ordinance Violation. It was voted on at the March 13, 2017 Village Board meeting. She also wanted to clarify the statement made at that meeting by a Brooklyn EMT that she "rewrote the ordinance" is not true. She cannot rewrite ordinances.

Motion: Gruebling/Hawkey to table action of disposition of the Cash Reserve CD funds of \$83,649.45 until the Joint Municipal meeting to approve the 2018 Budget. Motion Carried.

Chief Bowers reported: 2% dues have been completed by all municipalities. The County is considering going to Digital paging. DaneCom crashed due to a computer program update being done and was out of service for approximately 10 minutes. The update was not the most recent one and towers were missing. The system didn't know what to do so it crashed. Fortunately, there were no critical calls during the outage. The TACH channel is having interference from high power lines. They are looking into the ability to have the dispatchers steer the signal to the tower closest to the incident. The Brooklyn Fire Association updates two of their bylaws recently. One gave the Chief and Officers more power to dismiss members for non-attendance at meetings, training and calls. They will request a meeting with a member and hope to resolve any issues before termination. Previously the member was put on an "inactive list". The other change was changing the beverage stipend to a clothing allowance. Members were given a soda after returning from a call in the past. Now, they will receive funds towards clothing. This will be funded by the Fire Association.

Hawkeye questioned if Dane County had given any assurances that the DaneCom system wouldn't crash again. Bowers stated no. They said it was an isolated problem and the company doing the updates was aware of what happened. The system was off-line for @10 minutes. She will ask if any other group has received any information.

Marx requested a year-end report of income and expenditures for the Brooklyn Fire Association and also Brooklyn EMS Association. The Chief and EMS Director will provide those reports.

Motion: Hawkeye/Marx to pay the invoice from Ewald Chevrolet Buick LLC for the 2017 Chevrolet Silverado for the amount of \$31,441.00. The District has received the check from the Brooklyn Fire Association for payment of the invoice. Motion carried.

Director Dean reported that EMS has 2 new members and 2 RN's who live in Brooklyn who are very interested in joining. They would be able to run under their RN license instead of taking the EMT class first. He will have an updated roster by the end of April. Hawkeye requested a roster that shows volunteers and part time members.

He will have YTD reports at the April meeting. There have been 43 calls this year. Out of service time is less than 2 hrs. this year. 6 of the 7 amendments going thru the legislature were passed. One of them allows Basic Services to start IV's. Due to the low call volume and minimal times an IV would be necessary; it is not something Brooklyn is considering at this time. He will have more information on the amendments at the April meeting.

District Secretary/Treas. handed out Stark Collection Agency and Cvikota Billing reports for Feb. The 2016 Financial statements were reviewed. Discussion on what constitutes "Fund Balance". This will be considered when working on the 2018 budget. Funds can also be used for unbudgeted items during the year such as the lettering on the new Fire truck etc. 2016 Fire carryover was \$70,053.42. EMS was \$61,457.59. Hawkeye thanked her for the reports. Dan Dean stated that the excess funds in salaries for 2016 are due to fewer hours covered by part time people. There are still at least 5 EMT's who are covering daytime shifts as volunteers. However, 2017 will most likely see an increase in part time people as some EMT's retire.

Next meeting will be on April 26, 2017.

Motion: Lunde/Marx to adjourn at 7:18. Motion carried.