

Hartford Fire Board Meeting of 03/12/24

Reported by City representative Eric Germinder (**NOT** official meeting minutes).

Meeting called to order at 1900, following the Pledge of Allegiance roll call was taken, Sefcik, Ledesma, Birmele, and Germinder were present (representative Hunt was running late). No guests were present, and there was no public comment.

No additions or deletions to the agenda were made. Motion by Germinder, seconded by Ledesma to approve agenda as presented. Motion carried 4 yeas to 0 nays.

Motion by Sefcik, seconded by Germinder to approve the previous meeting minutes from February 12th, 2024. Motion carried 4 yeas to 0 nays.

Motion by Birmele, seconded by Sefcik, to approve February Treasurer's report. Motion carried 4 yeas to 0 nays.

Motion by Ledesma, seconded by Sefcik, to approve Accounts Payable in the amount of \$18,201.41. Motion carried 5 yeas (representative Hunt has arrived) to 0 nays.

Reviewed Revenue & Expenditure Report; Invoice Register.

Reviewed Fire calls for February: Total calls were 58, with 26 in the city, 28 in the township, 1 in Bangor Township, 2 on I-94 & Red Arrow combined, and 1 mutual aid.

No unfinished business.

New Business:

Discussion of the need to have Peter Stanslawski added as authorized user to the Huntington Bank Investment Account. The bank had Stanslawski as authorized user on the other accounts, but not on the Investment Account. A motion was made by Sefcik and seconded by Germinder to add Peter Stanslawski as an authorized user to the Huntington Bank Investment Account. Motion carried 5 yeas to 0 nays.

Discussion was held on consideration of closing our Huntington Bank accounts and moving all accounts to Honor Credit Union. The discussion was tabled until further information can be obtained by Stanslawski on the legality of government body holding accounts in a credit union, feasibility of doing direct deposits, ACH, etc.

Discussion of the upcoming Millage Request and review of wording that will be voted on at the April 8th, 2024, Fire Board Meeting. With each proposed millage wording then going to the Township and City Councils, respectively. City millage proposal to be assessed on all real and personal taxable property to remain at 1.4185 (1.4185 for each \$1000.00) for the years 2025 and 2026. It was changed from 4 years to 2 years because it was felt that, financially, it was difficult to ascertain the needs that far out.

Motion by Sefcik, seconded by Birmele, to accept the resignation of Probationary Firefighter Noah Emerick. Motion carried 5 yeas to 0 nays.

Discussion held on what to do with the old Jeep grass rig 1860. From what the Fire Department can gather it needs brakes, steering work, and has a significant oil leak. It is a 1953 Jeep Willys, owned by the Michigan DNR, has manual transmission (which very few can

drive), no turn signals, no brake lights, and only lap belts. From January 2017 through December 2023 has responded to only 15 incidents. We need to decide if it is worth putting money into or returning it to the DNR. The department would need to remove their lights and equipment from it beforehand. Motion by Sefcik, seconded by Hunt to return Jeep grass rig 1860 to the DNR. Motion carried 5 yeas to 0 nays.

Fire Chief Harting's Report: Discussed the calls from February, discussed the news that West Michigan Air Care is going out of business. Possibly AeroMed could be used in that type of situation in the future. He was going to look into this possibility. Also discussed the Electric Vehicle Safety Class that he and Assistant Chief McGrew attended. They both felt it was very informative. Reminded all that they have smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors that they will give away and install for free (legally the fire department has to install). Call the station and make an appointment. Lastly, Chief Harting stated that they plan to have a pancake breakfast at the station on the Saturday before Mother's Day (May 11th, 2024).

Assistant Fire Chief McGrew's Report: All equipment from Township Hall has been moved back to the station. Maintenance Service (first oil change, etc.) completed on the Mule. Smoke & CO detectors have been restocked by the State, just call and make an appointment for installation. Following the Electric Vehicle class that was attended, a grant was applied for to purchase a plug-in device that tells the vehicle to go into park.

Chairman Sefcik asked the Board to start thinking about what the future plans should be for the ladder truck. Currently, the ladder truck sits idle at least 90% of the time. If the desire is to replace it in 10 years, that could be incredibly expensive. It is estimated that a new ladder truck in today's market would be approximately 2.2 million dollars. In 10 years there's no telling how expensive it would be to replace it. One possibility would be to eventually sell it and replace it with a new rescue truck or engine. No action taken at this , it's just something to start thinking about.

Having no further business, a motion was made by Ledesma, seconded by Sefcik, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5 yeas and 0 nays. Meeting adjourned at 1947.