

MARINE CITY AREA FIRE AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 02-20-2013

Meeting called to order by Vice Chairman Larry Simons at 7:00pm at Marine City Fire Hall.

After observing a moment of silence, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chair Larry Simons.

Present: Larry Simons, East China Twp., Tom Whitenight, Cottrellville Twp., Steve McConnell, Marine City, Howard Draft, Marine City, Lisa Hendrick, Marine City, Linda Schweihofer, China Twp., Kelly Lisco, Cottrellville Twp., Julia Rust, China Twp., Joe Slankster MCAFA Fire Chief.

Absent: Don Beaudua, East China Twp.,

Communications:

The following Communications were presented:

- Marine City Area Fire Authority Roster

Communications were accepted and placed on file.

Approve Agenda:

Motion by Steve McConnell , seconded by Kelly Lisco to approve the Agenda as presented. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve Minutes:

Motion by Linda Schweihofer, seconded Howard Draft to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 19, 2012, All Ayes, motion carried.

Chief's Report:

Chief Slankster gave a report of his activity for the last month. The Chief and Assistant Chief will be the Emergency Manager Liaison Officer's for the Fire Authority after a meeting with the City Manager.

He advised the board that he had budgeted \$5000 for new air pack bottles. They are about \$800 dollars apiece and 8 are needed.

The department would like to take Sealed Bids for the Ladder Truck since they cannot certify it for use. The Chief has numerous parties interested in bidding on the truck. He will move forward on the plan and determine what the vehicle is worth. He also requested that if they sell the truck, that the \$5000 that the men saved and used to purchase the truck originally, could be used to buy equipment for the boat.

The Chief asked for assistance from members of the board to Contact Rep Phil Pavlov or Candice Miller on seeking grant money for a new Pumper truck. Several members will be meeting with both and will see what they can do to obtain any grants available. The Chief had checked out vehicles available from the DNR but noted that those were older that what the department already has.

The Chief advised that all of the needed cement work on the exterior of the building was complete. The department also put a gutter on the rear portion of the building near the generator. It was done by a department member to aid in any costs

The Chief will be on Vacation Feb 28, 2013 thru March 3, 2013, the Assistant Chief will fill in while he's gone.

Unfinished Business:

Retiree Death Benefit:

The Retiree Death Benefit originally approved was determined and unallowed expenditure according to the City Attorney. Tax dollars cannot be used for this type of expense,. The board did not want to have to discontinue the benefit but must follow the Attorneys decision to stop the benefit. Steve McConnell felt that there must be a way to provide this benefit to the many retirees who never got paid for all of their service. The board did say that the department could raise the money on their own and set it aside for just that purpose.

A motion by Howard Draft to stop paying the Retiree Death Benefit due to the Attorneys opinion on an unallowed expenditure, seconded from Tom Whitenight. All Ayes, motion carried.

New Business:

Election of Officer's:

The board opened up the discussion for the yearly election of the Fire Authority Officers.

A motion by Howard Draft to Nominate Lisa Hendrick for Chairperson was seconded by Steve McConnell. Larry Simons who is currently Vice Chair commented that he would like to remain Chair since taking over from Tom Raymond who left the board after the prior elections. He suggested that if he were made Chair, to select Lisa Hendrick as Vice Chair. Lisa Hendrick said she had no problem with that suggestion and recommended the board take a vote on the motion currently on the table. The vote was 2 Ayes, 6 Nays. Motion defeated.

A new motion by Steve McConnell to Nominate Larry Simons as Chair and was seconded by Kelly Lisco. All Ayes , motion carried.

A motion by Howard Draft to Nominate Lisa Hendrick as Vice Chair, seconded by Kelly Lisco. All Ayes, motion carried.

A motion by Julia Rust to Nominate Linda Schwehofer as Secretary, seconded by Steve McConnell. All Ayes, motion carried.

A motion by Steve McConnell to Nominate Howard Draft to remain Treasurer, seconded by Kelly Lisco. All Ayes, motion carried.

The officers will remain in place until next year's elections.

Audit Engagement Letter:

A motion was made by Linda Schwehofer to Accept and file the Audit Engagement Letter from McBride-Manley, seconded by Howard Draft. All Ayes, motion carried.

Fire Chief Wage Increase:

A sheet was provided at the December meeting of possible wage increases for the Fire Chief after his 6 month evaluation. Since everyone forgot to bring that sheet and it was not readily available at the meeting it was agreed to table the issue until the March 20, 2013 meeting. The board apologized to the Chief but reiterated that any increase

Motion to Table the Fire Chief's wage increase was made by Linda Schwehofer, seconded by Howard Draft. All Ayes, motion carried.

Tentative 2013-14 Budget Schedule:

A motion to accept the Proposed Marine City Area Fire Authority tentative 2013-14 Budget Schedule was made by Julia Rust, seconded by Linda Schwehofer. All Ayes, motion carried.

Set up proposed Budget Committee for 2013-14 Budget:

The board discussed that a person from each Community be selected to review the Budget for 2013-14 before it's presented to the Fire Authority. It was determined that Howard Draft from Marine City, Julia Rust from China Twp., Tom Whitenight from Cottreville Twp., Larry Simons from East China Twp. and Fire Chief Joe Slankster would make up the committee.

A motion by Linda Schwehofer to appoint the recommended board members to the Budget Committee, seconded by Steve McConnell. All Ayes, motion carried.

Financial Business:

Disbursements

Motion by Linda Schwehofer, seconded by Tom Whitenight to approve total disbursements, including payroll, in the amount of \$48,249.40 as presented. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Motion by Linda Schwehofer, seconded by Tom Whitenight to place on file the Preliminary Financial Statements from December 2012 and January 2013 on file. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Board Members Comments:

Linda Schwehofer wanted to thank the Fire Department for the Great Coverage they provide everyone.

Steve McConnell commented on the great showing at the Fireman's Ball. He also wanted to let everyone know that Tom Raymond was hired today as the new City Manager of Lexington and wished him the best.

Howard Draft said he had a great time at the Fireman's Ball and the food was really good.

Kelly Lisco wanted to thank the Fire Chief, Tom Whitenight and Matt for helping on all the questions she had on the Fire Authority and how it runs so she could explain it to her community.

Joe Slankster wanted to thank everyone for coming to the Fireman's Ball.

Larry Simons had a great time at the Fireman's Ball and thanked the firemen for doing a great job.

Adjournment

Motion by Linda Schwehofer, seconded by Steve McConnell to adjourn at 8:03pm. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

NOTE: The Next Meeting will be March 20, 2013 at 7pm.