

**Special Joint City Council Meeting
With Fire Department & 1st Responders
Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2005
7:00PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Fire Chief John Stolp called the meeting to order at 7:05PM

II. ROLL CALL / INTRODUCTIONS

Present: John Stolp, Gwen Holt, Joy Bertsinger, Mary Lubahn, Delbert Holt, Kevin McDermott, Jackie Hall, Clerk Nymann, Tom Novak.

Absent: Scott Keigley

III. TOUR FACILITY

John gave a tour of equipment, rigs, and building.

- Turn Out Gear Rack new. Gear was purchased 4 years ago. When there's a new member, new gear is purchased. Turn out gear still in good shape, however a lot of boots need to be replaced. Suggested to have Fire department put their turnout gear money in a special fund in the fall if they haven't purchased anything.
- 1992 Main Truck is brand new, is a 1,000 gallon, and carries 4 people, with a 15 gallon tank on top. This is the truck that the foam was put on. There is a seat issue that only 2 firefighters can get ready at a time, want to have it so 3 can get ready at a time. John was instructed to get an estimate on an additional seat. Extrication equipment viewed. With this truck ladders can reach a house that is 35'tall.
- 2000 Diesel Truck. Water hauler of 2,000 gallons. Ladder rack on the side. Need to get an estimate for an additional seat also.
- 1996 Diesel. 1700 gallons and gained a pump. In the future if the City did get water and sewer they could still use these tankers and drop tank. It can be filled in 4 minutes. Jech's will have a large well, and need to find out how the well can be used to fill up the trucks.
- 1983 Chevy is a Chevy chassy made by pierce. Used for grass fires and is in good shape, it only has 4,025 miles on it and is a equipment hauler.
- 1983 Blazer. Government donated to use. Fire Department installed lights, radio, and painted. It is undependable but is the only vehicle to get off road in. Fire Department and 1st Responder are looking at purchasing a newer truck with a topper to move backboards, and for sandbags to use during storm watch emergencies. Doesn't start very well. It was discussed that a vehicle may need to be kept on the west side of the highway during Hwy. 52 reconstruction. Also, look at topper that was for the truck, it's in the shop. Suggest to get dimensions of that and see how that would work for the new truck being considered.

Gwen and Mary gave a tour of their 1st Responder Rig and Equipment

- They currently meet the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30, and training @ 7:30 and they page out for their meetings.
- There are no problems with their rig. They don't transport, Gold Cross transports. There is equipment in the rig and everyone carries a small equipment bag. There are 6 backboards, and a defibrillator. They administer 4 medications: aspirin, glucose; benadryl and

acetaminophen. They have a trauma bag and an OB bag. Dr. Hankins is the medical director for Oronoco. They belong to the SEEMS (South Eastern EMS) Consortium and they train with their instructors 6 times throughout the year. Initially, training is a 40 hour course; and if the individual is already a nurse or doctor, they don't need to go through the training. Recertification required every 2 years. SEEMS will recertify if the Responder attends all trainings, otherwise it's 16 hours of training. Council commented on the real dedication of them considering the number of hours in training. They average 5-10 calls per month. GPS on the computer in the cab is mainly used by Jerry Lubahn. Everyone else needs training on it. They try to keep personal vehicles away from accidents. There are 18 current members. Members do receive counseling after accidents and they can call and request debriefings. Their area of response is City Limits, Oronoco Township, out to Reinke's Corner (by Hwy. 63), and North of 75 St NW. It was discussed whether they would consider going into New Haven Township and have a dual response with Pine Island on that. They currently have a good relationship with Pine Island and don't want to infringe on their area.

IV. REGIONAL SEML REQUEST TO HAVE FIRE CHIEF ATTEND MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 29TH @ 6PM IN LEROY.

Southeastern Minnesota League of Municipalities will be discussion the Regional Training Center at their meeting in LeRoy and have invited emergency personnel to attend. Delbert Holt will attend it.

V. OCTOBER 1ST BUS TOUR OF CITY

The City will be having a bus tour to point out new developments, city limits, future land use, new parks, etc. Invitation to fire department and 1st responders was extended.

VI. DISASTER DRILL

Joy said that Spring Valley does one to see how everyone comes together. Should see if any other neighboring cities have a plan for one. It was suggested that Dennis Blanck, Jr. could also be working on this.

VII. NIMS TRAINING

Required for all emergency personnel, Council, staff, eoc. Cheryl contacted Dave Carr (who will be retiring at the end of the year), and he didn't know of anyone that would do the training. Gwen stated she would contact Gold Cross. Joy suggested contacting Senator Senjem, and Rep. Demmer to see if they know of anyone who does training.

VIII. FIRE RELIEF ASSOCIATION

Cheryl stated that according to state statutes, she and the Mayor are ex-officio officers and that a copy of the meeting minutes needed to be on file at the office. They've been very efficient getting copies of the audits in every year. They always have an annual meeting in February. And the meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00PM. Danny Ondler can be emailed with questions.

IX. MAPS

Cheryl has spoken to Ron about getting new maps, the fire department wants 4 and first responders want 2 big ones, plus 6 little ones.

X. SHOP

Kent wants to meet with John and a Council member to go through the items in the Shop that belong to the fire department. Kent will be here on Saturday and he will call John on his cell phone.

XI. OTHER

- There are quite a few members who are both 1st Responders and Firefighters.
- Development: RWH IV is complete, and this development go through IX. There is concern where the fire department is going because the city is growing but the Fire Department is not. Currently, there are 2 of 14 members in the township, and Eric Simon may be interested in joining. The newsletter always has the request for new members. Bertsinger asked Novak how to appeal to the new residents, and Novak stated it's usually somebody who knows somebody. To become a firefighter, there are 90 hours for Basic Firefighter, and 112 Hours for Firefighter I & II. There needs to be an appeal to helping out neighbors. A representative from the department should attend homeowner association meetings. Also, use special events, the new Park in Riverwood Hills and at the Ballfield, bring out a fire truck to those events. There may be a possibility that in the new commercial developments, employees there can be volunteers during the day.
- Previous member discussed. A previous member of the fire department approached John to become a member again. Council suggested to take him back and put a 1 year driving restriction on this firefighter.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

John motioned to adjourn at 8:57pm, Jackie Hall second; all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:


Joy Bertsinger, Mayor


Cheryl Nymann, Clerk/Treasurer