

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

The Public Safety Commission was called to order by Chair Harbeck at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Trustee Lisa Harbeck, Trustee Dean Proefrock, Trustee David Antoine, Bob Wolf, and Joe Eernisse

Staff present: Police Chief Charles Wenten, Fire Chief Bill Rice, Fire Captain Pete Knauer, Division Chief Matt Karpinski, Fire Department member Mark Didier, Deputy Chief Tom Bichanich, and Administrative Assistant Clarissa Allen

Other Officials present: Trustee David Liss

MINUTES

Motion by Trustee Proefrock, seconded by Commissioner Wolf to approve the December 15, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

SELECTION OF PIERCE MANUFACTURING FOR NEW LADDER

Chief Rice introduced Fire Department members attending tonight's meeting who participated on the Fire Department's Equipment Committee to develop and design the ladder truck. introduced were Tom Bichanich – Deputy Chief, Matt Karpinski – Division Chief, Mark Didier – Department of Public Works crew member and Fire Department member, and Pete Knauer – Department of Public Works crew member and Fire Department Captain.

Chief Rice explained that the 2016 Fire Department Equipment Fund has \$975,000 which has been identified as a CIP equipment purchase in 2016 for a ladder truck. This ladder truck was substantially vetted at recent meetings between the Village and Town of Grafton.

During the review of the Equipment Committee, it became clear that Pierce Manufacturing in Appleton, Wisconsin is the world leader in building this type of fire apparatus. The current frontline fleet of Grafton Fire Department are all Piece fire apparatus, as is the entire frontline fleet of pumpers and aerials in Ozaukee County. Grafton Fire Department has a long history of purchasing Pierce apparatus with very positive results in delivery, service and repair. Chief Rice explained that the existing ladder truck does not have a pump. The design of the new ladder truck will include a pump and a 500 gallon tank. Chief Rice identified four requirements for the new ladder: a pump with maximum compartment space, a chassis with Tack-4 front suspension which supports better handling of the apparatus, a Detroit diesel engine which would have the greatest amount of horsepower, and lastly a space saving PUC fire pump. All these features are proprietary to Pierce.

Chief Rice explained that, after careful consideration, the Equipment Committee has selected Pierce to be recommended as a Sole Source Vendor for the apparatus bid. Chief Rice did ask for comparative bidding from the Sole Source Vendor, which would assure the bid being received is fair in pricing.

Chief Rice also noted that Pierce has announced a 3.0 percent price increase on any Pierce fire apparatus ordered after January 31, 2016, which would equate to \$30,000 on the Village's budgeted \$975,000 ladder truck.

Trustee Harbeck inquired about the warranty on this piece of equipment. Chief Rice explained that different parts of the apparatus have their own warranty, all of which are standard.

Chief Rice is recommending that consideration of the January 31, 2016 price increase be given in deciding on a timely purchase of the ladder truck.

Motion by Commissioner Eernisse, seconded by Commissioner Wolf to recommend the Village Board approve the selection of Pierce Manufacturing as a Sole Source Vendor and authorize the Fire Chief to use comparable pricing for the 2016 purchase of the Fire Department ladder truck. Motion carried.

PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT LADDER TRUCK FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The 2016 Fire Department Equipment Fund identifies the purchase of a ladder truck, estimated at \$975,000. Chief Rice advised that three payment options are available. The Fire Department could choose from a prepayment option, partial payments, or payment on delivery. After Chief Rice's discussion with the Village Administrator, Director of Administrative Services, and Town of Grafton officials, it is the consensus that the prepayment option was the best option, which would allow the Fire Department to stay within budget.

Chief Rice noted that a team of Fire Department members volunteered upward of 100 hours of personal time to design the ladder truck, avoiding costly add-ons, while assuring a quality functioning apparatus. The recommended equipment for the Pierce ladder truck will include ventilation fans, automatic defibrillator, nozzles, fire hose, hose appliances, portable flood lighting, hand tools, a 105 foot aerial ladder with a pump and 500 gallon water tank. A fire bell previously purchased by the Grafton Fire Department will also be installed on this piece of apparatus. The final price received from Pierce came in at \$973,500, when using the prepayment option. This ladder truck will be replacing the existing 1993 Pierce 100 foot apparatus, with an estimated value of less than \$40,000.

Trustee Harbeck wished to thank the Fire Department members for volunteering their time to assure the best purchase for the Fire Department and Grafton citizens.

Motion by Trustee Antoine, seconded by Trustee Proefrock to recommend the Village Board approve the purchase of a 2016 Pierce Arrow-XT 105 foot aerial ladder with a 1500 GPM PUC Pump and 500 gallon water tank from Pierce Manufacturing, Appleton, WI utilizing the prepayment option with the purchase price of \$973,500. Motion carried.

REPORT OF DECEMBER BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS – POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Wenten explained that the benchmarks tie in closely with the overtime, in that even experiencing staff shortages and significant crimes and activity, the operations benchmarks have not diminished. Chief Wenten advised that citations and warnings have remained consistent, with slight increases in directed patrols, business checks and traffic stops. Chief

Wenten advised the committee that the east side retail corridor had 69 retail thefts in 2015, compared to 28 in 2014. There have also been a number of thwarted retail theft attempts which resulted in arrests for warrants and bail jumping. Involuntary commitments have slightly decreased in 2015 from 2014; however, there have been more assists requested by other law enforcement agencies to assist with prisoners or chapter patients at Aurora Medical Center.

Although there was a large increase in overtime due to Officer resignations and medical leave, all scheduling options were exercised to keep overtime at the lowest possible amount. Chief Wenten pointed out that in 2014 there were 472 scheduling changes made compared to 627 in 2015. That number may be as high as 727 because in October 2015 alone, Captain Gabrish had to re-work the entire schedule three separate times which result in as many as 150 changes. Chief Wenten also made the committee aware that Sergeant Podewils, even though spending most of his shift covering patrol, was still available to handle school liaison matters. Investigator Wenzler also spent a significant number of days on patrol in December 2015, as well as Administration picking up some vacant shifts during the holidays and covering manpower shortages during times of heightened activity.

Chief Wenten advised that he is extremely proud and pleased with the Police Department staff for continuing to provide excellent customer service in all area in spite of some of the challenges during the past several months.

REPORT OF DECEMBER BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Rice advised that calls for service in 2015 have increased over 2014. Fire calls remained consistent, and there was an increase in EMS calls over 2014. Chief Rice thinks the increase in EMS calls could be partly contributed to more elder care facilities opting to call for EMS when patients fall, rather than trying to move the patient. Mutual Aid requests have also increased over 2014, largely due to additional requests by Cedarburg Fire Department during weekday, day-time hours.

Chief Rice advised that inspection benchmarks could be inconsistent due to more extensive inspections being performed, identifying major violations, which require research and sometimes multiple visits to complete the inspection.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

December Police Department Overtime

Chief Wenten advised that as of December 25, 2015, the Police Department expended \$88,372 in overtime. The budgeted amount for 2015 was \$72,000. Chief Wenten advised that this overage will be covered by surpluses in other budget accounts. Chief Wenten attributes most of this overtime overage to the staffing shortages caused by three Patrol vacancies, and several medical leaves in 2015.

At the beginning of the meeting, Trustee Antoine asked for an update on the C.T.H. V speed review. Chief Wenten stated that he planned on discussing that issue under old business but advised the commission that he is working with Gary Helm and with the Ozaukee County Highway Department. The Ozaukee County Highway Department advised that they will be replacing the signage on C.T.H. V as they determined that the current signs are worn and have diminished reflectivity. Chief Wenten stated that he has been researching larger signs and higher visibility signs. Gary Helm found a LED highlighted speed sign that is less

expensive than other options previously discussed. Trustee Antoine advised that he has noticed increased patrol presence in the area of Grafton Avenue/C.T.H. V.

Commissioner Wolf requested an update on the Emergency Medical Dispatch program. Chief Wenten advised that the program just went live today at about 12:00 p.m. Chief Wenten advised that it is a good program. Dr. Zils from Aurora Medical Center spent time in the Communications Center assisting with working some of the bugs out of the program.

It is recommended that an Emergency Medical Dispatch call remain uninterrupted while in progress. Chief Wenten explained that other activity does not suspend when a EMD call is received but given the response ability of our EMS and First Responders, having two dispatchers on duty at all times is not practical. Chief Wenten stated that different “fall back options” were considered. As a result of discussions between Chief Wenten, Chief Frank of Cedarburg Police Department, and Chief Graff of Mequon Police Department, they have developed a VIRTUAL COMBINED DISPATCH protocol, which will allow a Grafton Dispatcher to perform a one button transfer of non-emergency phone calls to Cedarburg Police Department. This same protocol is in effect for Cedarburg Police Department and Mequon Police Department as well. This initiative effectively doubled/tripled communications resources during critical times. This cooperative effort cost the Police Department approximately \$250 for equipment configurations and alleviated the need to hire additional dispatch personnel. This VIRTUAL COMBINED DISPATCH protocol is expected to be only used only during times of critical situations, such as a very involved EMD call, active shooter situation, or a MABAS call, when there is a single Dispatcher working. Chief Wenten stated that is not an option to be considered when scheduling or staffing but an option in the event of unforeseen events. The one button transfer option was tested last week, and is operational. Its use, results and need will be continually assessed refined as necessary. A standard procedure was developed by the three communities and is now in place with those communities.

Commissioner Wolf commented that he has been in contact with some Town of Grafton homeowners groups who are taking it upon themselves to become CPR certified, and possibly even purchase a defibrillator which would be shared by members of the homeowner’s group.

ADJOURN

Motion by Trustee Proefrock, seconded by Trustee Antoine to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. Motion carried.