

**VILLAGE OF GRAFTON**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**FEBRUARY 14, 2012**

The Public Safety Committee was called to order by Chair Jim Grant at 6:06 p.m.

Public Safety Committee members present: Jim Grant, David Liss and Dave Antoine

Staff/Officials present: Chief Charles Wenten

**PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD**

None.

**GRAFTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT**

Chair Grant noted that Chief Place was currently at a working fire and unavailable at this time.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT OVERTIME COMPARISON / JANUARY**

Chair Grant indicated the numbers on the bottom of the overtime comparison now show the dollar value of the overtime. The numbers do not include benefits. These figures provide a better overtime analysis than looking at just numbers. The school liaison hours scheduled in January were 120, compared to 90 hours actually worked.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS / JANUARY**

Chair Grant questioned the year to date traffic stops compared to last year. Chief Wenten explained it is a combination of calls for service and manpower availability. Trustee Antoine noted the number of statistics that are down from last year. Chief identified what he believes is the items of true significance. He identified that accidents were up significantly. Chief was pleased to see the involuntary commitments are half of what they were this January compared to last year. Chief Wenten pointed out the decrease in calls for service, which is a result of the new software system, which had been explained earlier. There will be a better ability to have a better comparison as we move through the year due to the increased time using the new software. The type and number of 911 calls were briefly discussed.

**OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

Chief Wenten briefed the Committee on the recent armed robbery at Gateway BP. There was 26 hours from the incident to the suspect identification and person being taken into custody. The pivotal aspect of that investigation was the mandated surveillance at the BP. We knew there was a problem before they called as they pressed the panic button.

Chief Wenten also identified on the community survey results that "Public Safety" continues to be a top concern, and satisfaction level was high. These results were in

spite of the fact that at times police contacts are not pleasurable, which speaks well of the Police Department personnel. Chair Grant inquired who else had the panic buttons, with Chief Wenten responding that Dick's Sporting Goods, BP, Form and Fitness and Snap Fitness. Chair Grant believed that due to the two recent armed robberies, that businesses be contacted again. Chief Wenten advised this will be a topic at the next business meeting.

### **SUSPEND MEETING**

Motion by Trustee Antoine, seconded Trustee Liss, to suspend the meeting at 6:15 p.m., to wait for the arrival of Fire Chief John Place  
Approved unanimously.

### **RECONVENE**

The Public Safety Committee re-convened at 6:30 p.m. upon the arrival of Grafton Fire Chief John Place.

### **GRAFTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Grafton Fire Chief John Place arrived to provide information on the Grafton Volunteer Fire Department 2011 Annual Report.

In 2011, the Department responded to 1,007 calls, which is a record number in the 115 year history of the Department. Ongoing training of members was discussed, noting that seven members completed EMT training in 2011, and another two members joined that were already licensed.

Chair Grant inquired if Aurora Medical Center was assisting with EMT licensing, with Chief Place responding Aurora Health Care has been very helpful; however, their training has been through M.A.T.C.

Chair Grant asked if the Fire Department had any concerns regarding patients being transported to Aurora Medical Center if their doctor was not affiliated there. Chief Place advised their policy is if the situation is critical, the patient will be transported to the nearest hospital. After they are stabilized they can be transported to Columbia St. Mary's Hospital in Mequon. For non-critical transports, they are given a choice. The Paramedic Intercept program was explained.

The MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) was explained. The Department completed its first year using MABAS, which provides additional equipment on large fire calls. MABAS was used at six structure fires in Grafton last year.

Fire Prevention continues to be a great program. This includes visiting schools, open house, and safety town presentations.

A Federal grant was received for \$195,000, which was used for much needed equipment. The Department is hoping to replace a 26 year old tender in 2013.

Chief Place advised the Department members have had some internal discussions regarding the future of the department, and the possible need for a full time chief. He is concerned with the rescue times, and the growing number of calls. Typically, one rescue call takes a crew between 1.5 and 2 hours. At this time, there are doing the best they can with current resources.

Chair Grant discussed the great resource the Fire department is for our community, and all Committee members thanked Chief Place for the Department's continued service.

**ADJOURN**

Motion by Trustee Antoine, seconded by Trustee Liss, to adjourn, at 7:15 p.m. Approved unanimously.