

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS

Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Public Safety Special Meeting

DATE: June 22, 2023

TO: BETSY MANCL

cc: JOSEPH ZURFLUH	ERIK SAYLOR	RAYMOND BOSSERT
JEN MOORE	DAILY TRIBUNE	JASON WORDEN
TIARA GRUNDEN	WFHR/WGLX	DIANE TREMMEL
SCOTT DREW	NICK ABTS	LONN RADTKE
CALEB MCGREGOR		

Purpose of Meeting: **Special PEFD Meeting**

Attendance: T. Grunden, C. McGregor, Fire Chief Worden, Administrator Bossert, J. Moore

Citizens: Cary Smith, Karly Tellerson, Erik Saylor, Tom Bartlett

Subjects Discussed, Action Taken & Board Action Required:

Regular Monthly Meeting

- ***Call to order:*** Meeting called to order by Chairman McGregor at 4:00 p.m.
- ***Roll Call:*** All present from above.

Public comments on agenda items:

- Ms. Tellerson provided a written statement and it will be entered into the record, her concerns about poor attitude displayed at a previous Public Safety meeting.
- Mr. Bartlett shared his experience as fire chief and his desire to have fire fighter safety. He stated he could not sell that in his time while he was chief. He offered his assistance as a former chief. He is not against the facial hair policy but he thinks it needs to be handled carefully.
- Erik Saylor- Just questioning the urgency of the meeting.
- Cary Smith- shared that he would not have a problem with a volunteer fire fighter risking his life while having facial hair to save his loved one.

Committee Chairperson's comments: McGregor commented, we established the committee's stance on this issue clearly (facial hair). We also established that we are willing to work with the fire department whenever they are willing to work with us. I think this is us working together, allowing a firm game plan to unfold, with deadlines that are quasi-firm.

- **FIRE DEPARTMENT- Issues to be discussed**

- a.** Facial hair issue and proposed Policy adjustment from the Fire Chief
- b.** Discussion by Jen Moore on she would be comfortable with the proposed changes to the Policy presented by the Chief for exceptions to job duties on a scene for those who cannot effectively wear a SCBA.
- c.** President Mancl also expressed agreement as a temporary policy, until this can be discussed in more detail and see the impacts of that policy.
- d.** Chairman McGregor also stated he could live with the policy presented. We are going to work (the committee and Chief Worden) on the equipment alternatives. The topic of funds will follow our research. He does not think it's viable to move forward, offering an established, permanent exemption without examining these OSHA-offered alternatives.
- e.** The Policy gives the Chief the discretion to assign duties as he see's fit, regardless, the Incident commander has the prerogative to utilize members as they see fit regardless of circumstances per ICS policy.
- f.** Consensus was given to the administrator to continue to work with the Chief on this issue and seek potential new equipment to accommodate if necessary.

- ***Adjourn:*** Adjourned at 4:55 p.m. by McGregor

Video Meeting Link- https://youtu.be/_cHWKW0RPY8

-Letter from Ms. Tellerson in the file.

-Notes from Chairman McGregor in File

Caleb McGregor – Chairman