

VILLAGE OF PORT EDWARDS
Port Edwards, Wisconsin

COMMITTEE: Public Safety

DATE: April 2, 2024

TO: BETSY MANCL

cc: JOSEPH ZURFLUH
CALEB MCGREGOR
BRIAN LUEBKE

ERIK SAYLOR
TIARA GRUNDEN
SCOTT DREW

JEN MOORE
LONN RADTKE
NICK ABST

Purpose of Meeting: **Regular Monthly Meeting**

Attendance: C. McGregor, J. Moore, T. Grunden, B. Mancl, Chief Drew, Acting Chief Luebke and Interim Administrator Duane Gau

Citizens: Delno Stewart, Cary Smith, Sandy Robinson, Joe Zurfluh, Rick Hess, Dennis Saeger, Bob Worden, Officer Brandon Abbott, Scott Grunden, Karly Tellekson and Jason Worden

Subjects Discussed, Action Taken, and Board Action Required:

1. ***Call to order:*** Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.
2. ***Roll Call:*** Present as noted above.
3. ***Approve the Agenda:*** **MOTION** (Grunden/Moore) to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried. All ayes.
4. ***Approve the previous month's minutes:*** **MOTION** (Moore/Grunden) to approve the previous month's minutes, March 5, 2024. Motion carried. All ayes.
5. ***Committee Chairman's comments:*** McGregor last meeting. This has been an eventful twelve months. There have been hard discussion and decisions made. He offered thoughts on how to improve relations between the Village and its' departments. He would like to see a board member and citizen(s)-at-large to attend FD/PD meetings. He would like to see board members and departments forge better lines of communications, follow the chain of commands, clarify and respect boundaries, and interact in a healthier manner. Lastly, he stated that the 100-year anniversary plaque for the fire department has been ordered and on its way. When the plaque is present, a tour for the new board at each department would be helpful as well.
6. ***Public comments on agenda items:*** (Later in meeting) Del Stewart asked about any changes the squad car would need to accommodate the dog. Officer Abbott stated that a cage and platform would need to be added to the squad, but can be taken out incase the dog is no longer needed.

7. Fire Department – General Update: Reviewed report.

- Rescue truck is up and running. Light bars donated to the fire department. Ben Martinson will be working on installing.
- 2% self certification completed by Sunday's deadline.
- Three applications, 2 moving forward onto the interview phase and background check.
- Down from 2023 calls.
- Engine 1 hit a deer returning from a call which caused some front bumper damage.
- Hose testing will be contracted out. Two companies recommended. These companies can do ladder inspections as well.
- **Job posting Fire Chief & Firefighter:** We have received and reviewed job postings for both positions. Discussion ensued about the salary of the fire chief at \$10,000. This amount has been locked in for 2024. PFC may request an increase to the board, which board would have to approve and to find the money. Additionally, the posting does state "according to qualifications" and could technically be a slightly higher salary, if the board approves it.

8. Police Department – General Update: Reviewed report.

- League Mutual reached out to Chief Drew and notified him that there are programs that the village is not utilizing and that are offered at no additional cost. Online training courses, access to earlier medical treatment for injuries and some League Mutual safety grants. Chief will work with Interim Administrator and the other department heads to look at this information.
- Officer Abbott presented a request a therapy/search and rescue dog. Therapy dog has been offered free of charge to the village. The dog would be the property of Officer Abbott and insured by him as well. No additional charge to the village. This would be utilized in the schools, nursing home, calls for service and eventually search and rescue. Would also work with Project Lifesaver. Non-profit is willing to help with tracking any donations for training, recertifications etc. Trustee Moore asked about insurance liability. Officer Abbott's insurance company will cover all aspects of the insurance need for injuries to the dog or to others. **MOTION** (Grunden/Moore) to recommend to the Village Board to authorize Officer Abbott to obtain a therapy/search and rescue dog to use the village for schools, nursing home, churches and calls of service at no cost to the village. All in favor.

9. Old business: None.

10. New business: None.

11. Correspondence received: None.

12. Future Agenda Items:

13. Trustee Comments: Chairman McGregor stated his gratitude for working with President Mancl, Trustees Moore & Grunden this term. There have been hurdles outside of our control and at times seemed like an uphill battle. Trustee McGregor is appreciative of his time on the village board and appreciates the work of the village board and staff. He also states hi appreciation for working with both

Chief Worden and Chief Drew. By not running a second term, he can focus on serving the village in his capacity as a pastor. He hopes he can continue to supplement the work of the village with his local ministry.

14. Next meeting date: TBD by next board.

15. Adjourn: 5:34 pm.

Caleb McGregor – Chairman
Minutes taken by Betsy Mancl