

Minutes

Zoom: 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 817 8974 4936 Passcode: 422711
Lent Town Hall: 33155 Hemingway Ave., Stacy, MN 55079

Joint Powers Meeting December 7, 2020 at 7:00 pm

STACY CALLS MEETING TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

M. Utecht called at 7:05 pm and the pledge was recited.

Present for Stacy by roll call: T. Olivolo, M. Lawrence, M. Ness, J. Carlson, M. Utecht.

Present for Lent by roll call: B. Seekon, C. Cagle, T. Nelson, J. Eischens.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

M. Ness made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by M. Utecht. By a roll call vote, motion passed 5-0 for Stacy.

T. Nelson made a motion to concur with Stacy. Second by B. Seekon. By a roll call vote, motion passed 4-0 for Lent.

APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

M. Ness made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the September 14, 2020 meeting. Second by J. Carlson. By a roll call vote, motion passed 5-0 for Stacy.

T. Nelson made a motion to concur with Stacy. Second by C. Cagle. By a roll call vote, motion passes 3-0 for Lent. J. Eischens abstained.

APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 9, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

T. Olivolo made a motion to approve the Special Meeting minutes from November 9, 2020.

Second by M. Utecht. By a roll call vote, motion passed 5-0 for Stacy.

B. Seekon made a motion to concur with Stacy. T. Nelson seconds. By a roll call vote, motion passed 4-0 for Lent.

APPROVE THE DECEMBER 1, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

M. Ness made a motion to approve the December 1, 2020 Special Meeting minutes. Second by T. Olivolo. By a roll call vote, motion passed 5-0 for Stacy.

T. Nelson made a motion to concur with Stacy. B. Seekon seconds. By a roll call vote, motion passed 4-0 for Lent.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief T. Potrament said the Fire Department is doing well and reported on the following:

- There are 28 members
- Currently 288 calls
 - Last Year 276 calls
- Currently 305 run hours
 - 317 run hours last year

- 1935.5 Total hours for the year
 - 2210.5 Total hours last year

He said that the reason why the hours are down is because there has been less training and they have restricted the number of people that can go out on calls. They are only having Fire Fighters attend calls and training if they feel comfortable doing so.

- They did not get the air pack grant

RELIEF ASSOCIATION REPORT

N. Peltier presented the investment gains and loss report and went over it with the Joint Powers. They have paid out \$40k in retirement. He said they are having a good year with investments.

N. Peltier said in the past, they have received a check for a 70/30 split for the \$20k donation. This year there is some confusion because they got a check from the City that is \$238 short and \$14k was received from the Township. N. Peltier said this year they are going to ask for a 3 year contribution and he would like it in the minutes how it should be split up; keep the 70/30 split or by the population. M. Utecht said we should pay the difference this year and, in the future, do it based on the population. M. Utecht said he will propose at the Council meeting to get a check paid tomorrow.

M. Utecht made a motion to pay the \$20k by population in the future. M. Ness seconded. By a roll call vote, motion passed 5-0 for Stacy.

T. Nelson made a motion to concur with Stacy. Second by B. Seekon. By a roll call vote, motion passed 4-0 for Lent.

N. Peltier said he is requesting they approve a \$20k donation for 2021, 2022, 2023.

M. Utecht made a motion to approve the joint contribution of \$20k for 2021, 2022, 2022. Second by M. Ness. By a roll call vote, motion passed 5-0 for Stacy.

T. Nelson made a motion to concur with Stacy. Second by B. Seekon. By a roll call vote, motion passed 4-0 for Lent.

N. Peltier presented another report showing the investments. He showed five options and explained at what percent they would be funded for each. The State does not want to see them under 95 percent funded. He recommended that the Joint Powers go with the \$2500 which is \$300 per year per eligible member. With no gain or loss, they would be 103 percent funded. He explained that no one on the department is in it for the money, but he has to ask because it is in the best interest of the people. He said that the Joint Powers has already committed to \$20k for the next 3 years and the State has already committed to \$90k. Their financial person would like a 5 year plan. M. Ness said he is opposed to it because people are losing jobs and he is nervous with the uncertainty of the stock market. T. Nelson said COVID is not going to change the run volumes, the worst month for them was in February, which was before COVID. They made the money back during COVID. M. Ness said it is true the stock market is coming back, but we cannot know that it is going to fully come back.

M. Utecht said he was looking at the \$2400 and said it is a significant increase. A \$200 increase is more appropriate in his mind. He asked if this just changes the pension over the year. N.

Peltier said it is per year of service. This would not start until 2021. T. Nelson said if we drop below, we have 5 years before we have to come up with it. T. Nelson said the investments could fluctuate. C. Cagle asked if someone could take the money out in case of emergency. N. Peltier said the less time you are on the department, the less money you are going to make and they have to be 10 years vested. There are 20 people who are not qualified. M. Ness said it is true we have the 5 years to make it up, but the City and Township would not be in a good place at that time if there was a crash. They would have to raise taxes on their unemployed residents.

M. Utecht made a motion to increase the pension to \$2400.00 for 2021 starting 1-1-2021. Second by T. Olivolo. By a roll call vote, motion passed 4-1 for Stacy. M. Ness nay.
B. Seekon made a motion to concur with Stacy. Second by T. Nelson. By a roll call vote, motion passed 4-0 for Lent.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget

N. Peltier said in this year's budget they added a line to the bottom for 'projected'. N. Peltier explained some of the expenses for the year which included: a couple more physicals, 6 sets of turnout gear, hose testing and replacement, 7 pagers at \$1k each and \$1400 worth of batteries and chargers that came out of their new equipment fund. He said that they have \$12k remaining from the \$20,500.00 from the radio budget and now that they own the radios, they are wondering if they could put the excess funds in a line item called radio maintenance. T. Potrament said they will have to purchase new radios without a grant. There is a countywide grant that they will hopefully get. M. Utecht said if we dedicate these funds to radio maintenance, they will stay in the account instead of going back to the Township or City. He proposes to take the excess transcriber funds on December 31 and become a new line item called radio maintenance. He said they should consider adding more money to it in 2022. T. Nelson asked if we can take the excess money and put it in the line item to build the account. M. Utecht said they were told a number of years ago that we have to turn the money back to the City and Township. M. Ness said the Joint Powers agreement states that any excess funds have to be given back to the City and Township. There was discussion regarding putting the money aside and talking to the attorneys about it. N. Peltier also added that supplies and maintenance is going to go down, training is in the red and wages had a surplus of \$10k because of less training hours.

NEW BUSINESS

COVID-19 Plan

M. Utecht asked if there were any questions or comments on the SLFD COVID 19 plan. He said he still does not feel that there is enough detail in it, but said to the Fire Department, as long as you all think that you all are going to be safe it is okay with him. T. Nelson said the lawyer should have put it in an email. M. Ness said James did provide the template. M. Utecht said he would rather have this in place and have to amended. M. Ness said the rules change every day and the plans are designed to be amended it as needed.

M. Utecht made a motion to adopt the 2020 SLFD pandemic response plan. Second by T. Olivolo. By a roll call vote, motion passed for Stacy 5-0.

T. Nelson made a motion to concur with Stacy. Second by B. Seekon. By a roll call vote, motion passed for Lent 4-0.

Potential CARES Funding

C. Cagle said we did not give any funds to the SLFD and said that she would like to give some to them if we get another round of funding. She said that the City has to cover unemployment and the Township made the Hall COVID safe. She would like the fire department to come to the Joint Powers if there are additional CARES funds. M. Utecht said they got an email from the Sheriff and some of their expenses were COVID related. He said *shame on us* for not thinking about it.

M. Ness said this is his last Joint Powers meeting and it has been fun working with everyone.

ADJOURN

M. Utecht declared the meeting adjourned for Stacy at 8:10 pm.

T. Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. Second by B. Seekon. By a roll call vote, motion passed for Lent.

The next Joint Powers meeting is Monday, March 1, 2021. Lent will preside.

Council/Board Present

Mark Utecht
Mark Ness
Tony Olivolo
Jennie Carlson
Marie Lawrence
Brian Seekon
Troy Nelson
Carolyn Cagle
Jess Eischens

Fire Fighters Present

TJ Potrament
Nick Peltier
Kurt Williams

Others Present

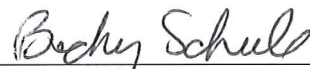
Sharon Payne
Kelly Wood



Mark Utecht, Mayor



Rick Keller, Board Chair



Becky Schulte, JP Deputy Secretary