

**Minutes**  
**Joint Powers Meeting**  
**Stacy Lent Fire Department**  
**30785 Forest Blvd., Stacy, MN 55079**  
**June 7, 2021 at 7:00 pm**

**STACY CALLS MEETING TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

M. Utecht called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and pledge was recited.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA**

M. Ness made motion to approve the agenda. Second by M. Lawrence. Motion carried for Stacy.

R. Keller made motion to concur with Stacy. Second by B. Seekon. Motion carried for Lent.

**APPROVE THE MARCH 1, 2021 MEETING MINUTES**

M. Ness made motion to approve minutes from the March 1, 2021 meeting. M. Utecht seconded. Motion carried for Stacy.

R. Keller made motion to concur with Stacy. Second by B. Seekon. Motion carried for Lent.

**CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Potrament reported on the following:

- 139 Calls
- 154 Hours
- 27 Members
  - 1 Person is retiring
  - 2 New Members

Would like to replace the 2006 Chief 1 truck

- Have been looking for a used truck
- Some used trucks come outfitted with lights
- Will use LG555 gambling funds
- Will try to buy as close to new as possible
- Looking at State Bids

**RELIEF ASSOCIATION REPORT**

S. Bengston was welcomed to the position of Treasurer for the Relief Association. N. Peltier is helping him out. He has been a member of the SLFD since 2018. He reported that there were not any large expenditures this quarter besides one payout in June for \$28K for a member who retired. They are at \$832,804.79. They switched to a standard fund.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Budget**

T. Potrament stated that they have not taken any large hits to the budget. The funds available were discussed. The State reimburses SLFD for each firefighter to do training. The SLFD implemented two new systems for training; Target Solutions which will track their training better and will be more detailed. The second program is a new tracking system for inventory to keep

track of what is on each truck by using iPads and smart phones, which they have not had before. The options for both programs were discussed, and how this is more efficient than paper logs, etc. This program has a virtual training side to that they can assign it to a Fire Fighter to make up for missed training. The system is reimbursable through the State. T. Potrament noted that it is designed to help with the ISO rating. The information is backed up.

M. Ness asked about archive accessibility. K. Williams said the cost to go through old files is about \$4K. B. Seekon suggested a network storage device that may help with records and archives that will protect the files so they cannot be compromised. The current drive was not backed up and one side died. S. Olson stated they typically do not need to go back more than a year for the ISO rating unless something happens. M. Utecht asked for training records/lists going back to 2016, and he will ask City Attorney or the City Clerk about record retention. S. Olson stated he felt this would help keep record of training requirements moving forward. M. Peltier has been entering data.

T. Potrament said that he is comfortable leaving the budget as is (\$230k) and noted that in the future, they will have to purchase new radios when new technology is required. The motion made by the Joint Powers in 2020 to allow the excess funds to go into the radio maintenance line item was discussed. M. Ness said that they can make that motion each year, otherwise they will have to change the bylaws.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Fire Inspections**

M. Utecht said that the City Building Inspector will not be doing the fire inspections anymore and it is up to SLFD to do them. T. Potrament stated that he and N. Dodge took the class to have two certified inspectors on the SLFD. M. Utecht said that this will impact the ISO rating. We can get access for anyone doing inspections, all documents will be available in the parcel. Otherwise, we can use the system J. Kramer was using. M. Ness suggested that whoever is Chief would be certified, which he is. The City of Stacy uses a system that the SLFD may be interested in using.

There are around thirty businesses inspected per year. They can update the pre-planned while working with J. Kramer on inspections. This will not be an option anymore, but now N. Dodge is updating pre-plans. Occupants and businesses change, so plans need updating. In Stacy, the inspection is required annually. The charge is \$50 per initial inspection and \$35 for re-inspection. Those funds were formerly given to J. Kramer and the City. M. Utecht stated those funds should go to the Fire Department moving forward. M. Utecht would like the SLFD to take over inspections if possible. J. Eischens asked how difficult would it be to hire two more certified people. T. Potrament said that the SLFD has two certified people with him and N. Dodge. M. Ness stated getting certified could increase wages for those who get certified, from the fee collected. T. Potrament stated it will be a new schedule for them. M. Utecht said to have a discussion with J. Kramer and learn from him.

### **American Rescue Plan Act**

M. Ness said the City of Stacy is getting a portion of the new funds and C. Cagle had mentioned she wanted money set aside for the SLFD. M. Utecht told T. Potrament to contact Michelle Hayes at City Hall to clarify those details. There is a longer time to use the funds.



### **PERA SLFD Relief Association**

T. Potrament stated that the SLFD were given a cost analysis from PERA. S. Bengston said they are deciding whether to keep the funds in house or use PERA. Opinions on how to invest vary across the board. Raises have to be approved by the Joint Powers. T. Nelson would like to see it kept local over PERA, if it is not too much work for S. Bengston. T. Nelson said to keep it in house, unless you have no one who would like to do it. S. Olson said, since S. Bengston is still training, we are going to have someone work with him so the work is shared.

T. Potrament said the Joint Powers can make a motion, but it is not needed as what is currently set. M. Utecht and M. Ness are both liaisons to the Relief Association, and can advocate for what was said at Joint Powers. B. Seekon stated it should be up to SLFD and to verify with the Relief Association to move forward. T. Potrament and K. Williams said it would need to be brought up at the next Relief meeting. M. Utecht stated if PERA is chosen by board, they are able to explain to us why it is best, they would not say no to it. PERA investment gains may not be as high, but it would not be known, unlike in-house control. This will be brought up to the members. S. Olson said that this should be an annual meeting topic.

### **ADJOURN**

**M. Utecht declared the meeting adjourned for Stacy at 8:12 p.m.**

**R. Keller made a motion to concur with Stacy. Second by B. Seekon. All in favor, motion carried for Lent.**

**The next Joint Powers meeting is Monday, September 13, 2021. Lent will preside.**

#### **City/Town Present**

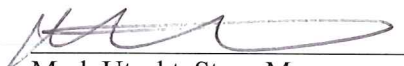
Mark Utecht  
Mark Ness  
Marie Lawrence  
Rick Keller  
Brian Seekon  
Troy Nelson  
Jess Eischens

#### **Fire Department Present**

TJ Potrament  
Scott Olson  
Kurt Williams  
Shawn Bengston

#### **Others Present**

Kelly Wood  
Laura Carr

  
Mark Utecht, Stacy Mayor

  
Richard Keller, Lent Chair

  
Kelly Wood, Joint Powers Secretary

