

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON FIRE ADVISORY BOARD  
HELD AT 7:00 P.M., ON MAY 5, 2009, AT THE PRINCETON CITY HALL**

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**1. Call to order** – Chair Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

Members present:

Paul Whitcomb, Chair  
Stephen L. Dolin  
Cathy Lundeen

City of Princeton  
Greenbush Twsp.  
Wyanett Twsp

Staff present:

Mark Karnowski, City Admin.  
Jim Roxbury, Chief P.F.R.D.

Members absent: Gene Stoeckel (called), Princeton Twsp. and Bill Andresen, Blue Hill Twsp.

**2. Review/Consideration of April 7, 2009 Minutes**

DOLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 7, 2009, MEETING AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LUNDEEN. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**3. Agenda Additions/Deletions** – Roxbury requested that “Fire Act Grant” be added under new business. There was no objection.

**4. Reports:**

**A. Run Reports** – A run report summary was handed out by Chief Roxbury. The actual reports for each township will be mailed out.

**B. Department Update – Jim Roxbury**

Chief Roxbury advised that the PFRD members are receiving Chemical Assessment Team Training (Hazmat) that evening. The department has been fairly busy, as indicated by the run sheet, but grass fires are down this year. The Minnesota State Bar Association’s “Will for Heroes” team was out last week and 21 PFRD members worked with the volunteers to get both wills and powers of attorney drafted for the members at no charge.

Lundeen noted that construction of the new building at Wyanett Township is underway. She passed along a request from a nearby resident who asked that, when leaving the fire station, that the firefighters refrain from immediately using the sirens in that it might spook the nearby resident’s horses. Roxbury noted that they would be as discrete as practicable, but state law requires that – when fire trucks roll and they activate their red lights that they must activate the siren as well. Roxbury suggested that they may go out and “test” the sirens in order to condition the horses to tolerate the noise.

**C. Correspondence** – None

**5. Old Business**

**A. ISO Rating Update**

Roxbury noted that a portion of the process is still underway. The paperwork and primary inspections have all been done but they will be testing the hydrants in town for flow now that the PUC has completed flushing the system. They anticipate that hydrant testing will be done by the end of the month.

Roxbury noted that the ISO inspector noted that the city has a sufficient number of 3 story buildings to justify having a ladder truck that can reach the top floor of those structures (including the hospital). Roxbury noted that, if the city purchases such a truck, that we may be able to improve our ISO fire rating (although that’s not assured). He advised the FAB that they’ve located, viewed and test driven a 1985 Sutphen 95 foot mid-mount aerial platform truck in Grand Rapids, Minnesota for an asking price of \$60,000. He noted that there are sufficient funds in the

truck fund to pay for that vehicle. He also noted that they found a similar vehicle for sale on the East Coast for over \$100,000. The Grand Rapids vehicle has recently be thoroughly tested and appears to be in really good condition.

LUNDEEN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE AERIAL LADDER TRUCK. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY DOLEN. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **B. Consideration of Meeting Date Change**

Karnowski provided a copy of a letter sent to Bogus Brook Township inquiring whether they would like the FAB to move either their meeting date or time to make it easier for them to attend the monthly meeting. He noted that they have not yet responded. The consensus was to leave the time and date of the meeting until such time as Bogus Brook requests a change.

## **6. New Business**

### **A. Fire Act Grant**

Roxbury noted that he plans on applying for a \$109,000 Fire Act Grant to purchase 800 MHz radios for the department. The city's share on the 95/5 split would be something a little over \$5,000.

DOLEN MOVED TO RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE ALLOWING THE FIRE ACT GRANT APPLICATION FOR 800 MHz RADIOS AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY LUNDEEN. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **7. Next Meeting & Agenda**

It was noted that, at this point the June meeting will be June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 PM.

## **8. Adjourn**

There being no further business:

DOLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN. LUNDEEN SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 7:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Karnowski,  
City Administrator