

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON FIRE ADVISORY BOARD  
HELD AT 7:00 P.M., ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2009, AT THE PRINCETON CITY HALL**

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**1. Call to order** – Chair Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. at the Princeton City Hall.

Members present:

Paul Whitcomb, Chair                      City of Princeton  
Gene Stoeckel (@ 7:15)                  Princeton Twsp  
Cathy Lundeen                                Wyanett Twsp

Also present:

Roger Nelson, Blue Hill Township

Staff present:

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

Member absent:

Stephen L. Dolin, Greenbush Twsp.  
Bill Andresen, Blue Hill Twsp.

**2. Review/Consideration of August 4, 2009 Minutes**

LUNDEEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 4, 2009, MEETING AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY NELSON. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**3. Agenda Additions/Deletions** – none.

**4. Reports:**

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

**B. Department Update – Jim Roxbury**

Chief Roxbury advised that they're still anticipating the final ISO inspection later this fall after the new ladder truck is delivered. They have two firefighters on leave but one of them is due to return to duty tonight. The ladder truck from Grand Rapids is now due for delivery either September 21<sup>st</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>. They're working on an automatic mutual aid agreement for all of Mille Lacs County (one for all of Sherburne County is already in place). Adoption by all departments will trump the need for individual agreements between all the departments. The department is working on a 20 year truck CIP that should be available for review at next month's meeting.

Roger Olson asked if the mileage of a truck is a major concern. Roxbury noted that it is not as long as the maintenance on the truck has been kept up. Little problems have a tendency to diminish the truck's value if not repaired in a timely manner. For instance, he noted that one of the tankers has some rust issues with the storage boxes below the tank and some of the fenders. They're looking at getting those replaced. Roxbury stressed that there's no immediate needs for new vehicles at this time.

The Department has been doing some house burn training with some of the houses the city has acquired through the NSP foreclosure grant program. Other departments, including Elk River, have asked to participate in those training sessions. Roxbury will notify FAB members of upcoming events if they'd like to attend.

They've not heard back on their 800 MHz Fire Act Grant application (which is good). They have been advised that the total amount available for Fire Act Grants has been reduced (that's bad).

Lundeen advised that she recently saw a notice where grants for Fire Fighter I & II training were available to Townships and asked if those funds could be used to train a firefighter who would be located close to the sub-station. Roxbury said that was a possibility. Lundeen will look for the notice and get back to Roxbury with the info.

The fire billing has been going well. Interestingly enough, they've learned that MnDOT won't pay the flat \$250 charge for a grass fire along a state highway...they insist on an itemized bill. So the department sent one (for \$695) and the state immediately paid.

Department members are meeting next week on the Halloween efforts for this October. It promises to be bigger and better.

Karnowski advised that the city has re-applied for state bonding bill matching money for a Public Safety Building and is working on getting Xcel to lobby on behalf of the city because of the new facility's impact on the relocation effort. So far, Xcel seems willing to help.

## **5. Old Business**

**A. By-Law Proposal** – Karnowski noted that the by-law copies were not sent out. They were given to Lundeen for Wyanett's consideration. They will subsequently be sent to all townships for consideration and signatures.

## **6. New Business**

**A. 2010 Budget** – Roxbury advised that there were no "surprises" in the proposed 2010 budget. He is requesting that the FAB agree to continuing the policy they adopted last year which is to increase the budget annually by 3% rather than have periodic large increases. He will have a copy of the preliminary budget available at the October meeting.

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

It was noted that the next meeting will be October 6<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Adjourn**

There being no further business:

LUNDEEN MOVED TO ADJOURN. STOECKEL SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 7:51 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Karnowski,  
City Administrator