

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE PRINCETON FIRE ADVISORY BOARD
HELD AT 7:00 P.M., ON OCTOBER 2, 2012, AT THE PRINCETON CITY HALL**

1. Call to Order – Chair Whitcomb called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Those in attendance included:

Members present:

Paul Whitcomb, Chair City of Princeton
Gene Stoeckel Princeton Twsp.
Stephen L. Dolin Greenbush Twsp.
Cathy Lundeen Wyanett Twsp.

Members present:

Roger Nelson Blue Hill Twsp.

Staff present:

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

2. Review/Consideration of September 4, 2012 Minutes

Stoeckel noted that, in the first sentence of item “E. Blue Hill” in the Run Reports/Department Update section of the minutes the ninth word should be “now” not “not”.

STOECKEL MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2012 MEETING AS CORRECTED. LUNDEEN SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL IN FAVOR, THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Agenda Additions/Deletions: Roxbury didn’t request the agenda be amended at this point in the meeting but then added three more items late.

4. Run Reports/Department Update:

A. Run Reports

The detailed run reports were handed out and Roxbury reviewed the monthly summary with the members. He said the grass fire runs were probably going to be increasing. They had a pole building fire that destroyed three race cars. They also had a deck fire at a residence.

B. Wyanett Tanker

Roxbury also noted that they have one bid for painting the Wyanett tanker and are waiting for a second bid. The light bar for the truck is in but not installed yet.

C. Relocation

The training reviewers apparently have a concern about the recent drill system, but it doesn’t involve anything the PFRD did. It appears we’ll be getting two smaller trailers for relocation to replace the one larger trailer. Roxbury implied he may try and salvage the larger trailer once relocation lets go of it.

D. 800 MHz Radios

The police department now has their radios as well as the training. The PFRD training is scheduled for October 23rd.

E. Grass Fires

Jim advised that the DNR has, again, located a helicopter at our airport. The area is on “red flag” alert.

F. Miscellaneous

Roxbury also noted that some of the firefighters are attending the rope rescue class in Isanti. The membership is out cleaning the ditches on CSAH 4. They're also getting ready for their Halloween party.

5. Old Business:

A. Public Safety Building Update

Karnowski advised the board that the committee has pretty much settled on a proposed floor plan and the consultant is currently putting together an estimate for construction costs.

B. Fire Run Billing

Chief Roxbury asked for feedback from the Board members on what feedback they got from their full boards regarding how aggressive we should be in collecting payment for runs.

Stoeckel said Princeton Township doesn't want the city to use a collection agency. Their feeling is that the amount of money returned is never worth it. Still, they want the city to be fairly aggressive. They suggested the city stress the suggestion to turn the bill into the property owner's insurance company. They think the city shouldn't try and collect on the 3 year old bills but, otherwise, just continue as we have in the past. Perhaps give the bill to the city attorney and have THEM send a letter after two attempts by the city.

The Board requested that a copy of the unpaid billing be sent out to the membership and that a proposed policy be drafted for Board discussion in November.

C. 2013 Budget

Chief Roxbury asked if the Board was okay with the proposed 3% increase in the 2013 budget. The consensus was to continue with that annual increase for 2013.

D. 2013 Budget

Chief Roxbury advised that the PFRD is putting in for getting free 9-volt Everready Batteries to give away to folks to put in their smoke detectors.

6. New Business:

A. Grant Application for Shared Services

Chief Roxbury advised that there is grant money available to hire a consultant to investigate whether there are any advantages (financial or structural) to share services with other fire departments in the area. The grants are for up to \$40,000 with a 10% local match. The application has to be in by November 16th. It would be for the study only...there would be no commitment to actually implement any actions evaluated. There was support for applying for the grant.

B. Bingo

Lundeen advised that Dalbo is having a bingo on October 13th at 7 PM.

7. Next Meeting(s) & Agenda

The board agreed that the November meeting date is scheduled for Election Day (the 6th), the meeting should be moved to Monday, November 5th at 7 PM..

8. Adjourn

There being no further business:

DOLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN. STOECKEL SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL VOTED IN FAVOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Karnowski, City Admin.