

Watervliet Fire Board

Meeting Minutes January 21, 2020

The meeting was called to order at **7:00 pm** by Chair, **Deane Fizzell** who led us in the **pledge of allegiance**.

Board Members Present; Fizzell, Bambrick, Stepich, Marvin and Brinker

A **motion** was made by **Brinker** and supported by **Marvin** to approve the amended **minutes from the December 17, 2019 meeting. All in favor, motion carried.**

Brinker presented the December 2019 **payables in the amount of \$18,090.20**. A motion was made by **Marvin** to approve the December payables. Motion was supported by **Stepich. All in favor, motion carried.** Copy of payables on file at the fire department.

Chief Jones presented his written reports. Written reports are on file at the fire station.

Brinker initiated a discussion regarding the future of the department. The discussion was in relation to losing so many seasoned firefighters. Brinker expressed a concern over the "gap" created between seasoned firefighters and new, less experienced firefighters.

Chief Jones stated that Brien Flory has come back to the area. Chief Jones further stated that he has two potential new firefighters who are certified, however still need their physicals and their physical agility tests.

New Business:

- It was discussed that the City and the Township do not own the fire department and therefore it is not necessary for them to be listed as additional "loss payee" on the insurance policy.
- Billing policy will be re-visited at the March 2020 meeting, however Marvin requested she be provided copies of the billings that were sent to insurance companies and remain unpaid. Marvin will pursue collection of these outstanding invoices. Bambrick expressed concern that personally, she would be very concerned if she were in an accident and found out that her insurance company had been billed and refused to pay for services rendered.
- Some discussion was had regarding Chief Jones "Christmas List" and Capital Improvement Plan as well as the Chief's "Watervliet Fire Department Staffing and Personnel Proposal". The program proposal in part, consists of a suggestion of three part-time employees be identified and hired. Duties would include, but not be limited to Station and equipment maintenance, call for service responses, existing structure fire pre-plans, assist with future construction assessment pre-plans, plan review and construction monitoring, business, commercial, industrial, mercantile health care plus residential annual rental as well as seasonal life safety inspections. Bambrick stated that the funding for these hired staff would be at the expense of City and Township residents who already pay for rental inspections, etc. Marvin also expressed concern over adding these inspections, more importantly the charges associated with them as a means to fund paid personnel at the fire station. Further discussion may follow.

Old Business: Billing process and alternatives are still being discussed.

Next regular meeting to be **February 18, 2020 at 7:00pm. The budget meeting process will be started at this meeting and additional meetings may be scheduled if necessary.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Marvin** and supported by **Brinker. All in favor. Motion Carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melanie Marvin