

Brodhead Fire Commission Meeting

October 4, 2024

3:00 P.M.

Brodhead Fire Station

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 PM

2. Roll Call to determine if a quorum is present.

Present - S. Hazeltine, P. Faessler, N. Burkhalter, B. Gritzmaker, B. Moon, A. Schneider

3. Motion to deviate from the order of the agenda if necessary.

No motion was made to deviate from the order of the agenda.

4. Public Appearances: This is the public's opportunity to speak.

Each citizen is allowed 10 minutes to address the Commission.

T. Simpson had concerns over moving the Decatur Township sections from Albany Fire Dist to Brodhead Fire Dist. Should this be discussed at a municipality level first? A. Schneider mentioned that the Decatur Town Board approved moving the Decatur sections to the Brodhead Fire District at the last board meeting. T. Simpson wanted to know if this was the time to go to Albany Fire and talk with them about a possible merger. After speaking with the Albany Chief, Chief Scheidegger feels this is not the right time. More issues must be addressed before BFD can help outside BFD's automatic aid with them. S. Hazeltine mentioned that under state statute, a municipality has to provide a fire service to its municipality. An option may be a contract between Albany Fire municipalities, which could provide more revenue than an assessment as a revenue source. Chief Scheidegger mentioned you would have to hire firefighters as BFD is strained to cover BFD calls, and adding Albany without hiring personnel wouldn't be possible with just volunteers.

T. Simpson had concerns with the \$58,686 salary the Admin Assist will receive in 2025. Fire Dist set the salary under the FSLA passed for 2025 for Administrative staff to be exempt employees without paying overtime. P. Faessler said the difference between the current and 2025 salaries was roughly \$4,000. T. Simpson said that the City does not have the funds to pay their clerks this wage. That hourly wage with paid overtime was an option. T. Simpson's concern is the salary for admins moving forward and possible yearly increases

5. Approval of previous meeting minutes. Discussion/Possible Action.

Motion to approve the Brodhead Fire Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes September 6, 2024 and Special Budget Meeting Minutes September 18, 2024, as presented.

Motion made by B. Gritzmaker

Seconded by N. Burkhalter

Motion Passed

6. Reports of departments activities:

a. Firefighters Inc.:

Pancake Breakfast Sunday, October 13, 2024, 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM

b. Fire Inspector:

Nothing at this time

c. Administrative Assistant Reports:

Fire Response 3, Cancel 2, MABAS 3, Lift Assist 2, MVA 3, Assist BAEMS 2, Assist Orfy 1, Albany 860 1, 1st Response 7 **Total 24 Calls**

d. Life Quest/Fire Recovery:

Claims Submitted 5 for \$2,795.00

Payments received for 5 claims by FRUSA \$2,723.04

Claims Denied - 0

Non-Billable(Other) - 0

In Progress - 3

Non-Billable - Inadequate Info - 0

e. Fire Chief:

Chief Scheidegger asked if commissioners were ok with moving the time of the monthly meeting to 5:00 PM on Fridays.

P. Faessler made a motion to move the Brodhead Fire Commission meeting to the 1st Friday of the month at 5:00 PM

Seconded by A. Schneider

Motion Carried

8. New Business :

a. Dress Uniforms/Funeral Honor Guard - Discussion/Possible Action:

Adm. Asst Osborne gave a quote for Class A uniforms to K. Schlittler, Pres. of Fire Inc., due to the stuffing of pancake breakfast envelopes Wednesday night; no Fire Inc. meeting was scheduled. K. Schlittler will bring it to the membership at the November meeting.

b. Training Containers-Spring Grove Discussion/Possible Action

Waiting on the lease agreement from the Spring Grove Attorney.

Chief Scheidegger mentioned would like to put a roof prop on the training building but wants to install it after the Brodhead Fire District signs a lease.

c. 2025 Budget Discussion/Possible Action

S. Hazeltine discussed the misconceptions about the budget from the previous special budget meeting. After discussing and reviewing each line item, Brodhead Fire District Commissioners passed the 2025 budget of \$499,150.00 on a 6-0 vote. A motion was made to reduce the District Funding Assessment by \$100,000.00, making the District Funding Total Assessment \$360,650.00. This motion passed on a 5-1 vote. S. Hazeltine mentioned that municipalities do not approve the Brodhead Fire Dist budget, but the Fire District Commissioners approve the district budget. The Brodhead Fire District Commissioners approve the budget. Giving the budget to the municipalities is more of a budgetary item for municipalities to complete their budgets by knowing what the assessment will be by the Brodhead Fire District.

d. Decatur Township moving sections to Brodhead Fire District Discussion/Possible Action

Commissioners discussed Decatur Township moving sections 3-9 to the Brodhead Fire District from the Albany Fire Dist. B. Gritmaker felt the Brodhead Fire District was big enough without moving new sections into it.

P. Faessler made a motion to accept Sections 3-9 of Decatur Township into the Brodhead Fire District from Albany Fire starting January 1, 2025.

Seconded by A. Schneider

Roll Call Vote: R. Moon-Aye, P. Faessler-Aye, B. Gritmaker-No, A. Schneider-Aye, N. Burkhalter-No,

S. Hazeltine-Aye. The motion passed with a 4-2 vote.

e. By Law Committee-Discussion/Possible Action:

Nothing at this time

f. Treasurer's Report-Discussion/Possible Action:

Operating Checking Account Balance: **\$269,286.23**

Executive Money Market Operating Money Market: **\$40,267.60**

Capital Money Market Capital Fund Balance: **\$473,142.82**

Total Accounts Balance: **\$782,696.65**

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by A. Schneider

Seconded by N. Burkhalter

Motion passed

g. Payments of Bills-Discussion/Possible Action:

Bills paid after the September 6, 2024, Meeting

Alert All \$268.00, AT&T \$85.98, Bandt \$275.00, Bound Tree \$1,190.98, Brodhead Water & Light \$547.70
Capital One 1,684.53, Decatur Dairy \$62.42, EcoWater \$23.00, Firefighter Pay Leave Work August \$606.25
Fire Rescue \$980.50, First Center Floral \$61.89, Fire Safety \$199.00, Foremost \$903.45,
Nolte's Garage \$69.30, Piggly Wiggly \$28.23, Reimb. T. Gerber \$27.07, Rennert's \$1,720.54,
Sewer City of Brodhead \$116.38, Spectrum \$187.65, Speich \$521.16, WE Energies \$11.99
Wis. State Firefighters \$25.00

Income Received after September 6, 2024 Meeting

Interest \$22.33, Fire Recovery - August \$474.00

Motion to approve Payment of Bills made by B. Gritzmaker

Seconded by N. Burkhalter

Motion Carried

9. Commission Comments or Questions:

Commission's opportunity to speak about anything, not a specific agenda item.

10. Discussion/Possible Action on future agenda items and next meeting date and time:

Brodhead Fire District Monthly Meeting - Friday, November 1, 2024 at 5:00 PM Brodhead Fire Station

11. Motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn made by B. Gritzmaker at 5:15 PM

Meeting adjourned