

Brodhead Fire Commission
Tuesday, February 7, 2023
Brodhead Fire Station
5:00 P.M

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM

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

Present- S. Hazeltine, A. Schneider, P. Faessler, T. Simpson, P. Naramore,
Absent - T. Schadewaldt

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

Motion made by A. Schneider to approve agenda as presented.

Seconded by T. Simpson

Motion Passed

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

Each citizen is allowed 10 minutes to address the Commission.

Adm. Asst. Osborne read a note from Dick Pinnow who was on vacation. City of Brodhead-Newspaper article referenced J. Baxter, a member of the Brodhead City Council requesting development of a 5 year plan for succession planning. City doesn't have a need for a capital fund because they do not plan ahead as evidenced by the lack of projected budget for future years. They borrow money when it arises or spend down fund balance. City invests excess fund balance money with the Bank of Brodhead. Why are they so concerned about Brodhead Fire Dist investing capital account money? The City does the exact same thing in the same bank. They just do not transfer the balance to a different account. Brodhead Fire transfers excess funds to a money market account for future purchases.

Robert Moon was wondering how dispatching was going as many dispatchers have left or positions have not been filled. At this time, 3rd shift 11 PM to 7 AM is currently being dispatched by Green Co. Dispatch. We have had no issues with Green Co. Dispatching BFD/EMS so far. Robert Moon asked how the paid on premise hiring was going. BFD/EMS currently have 2 paid on premise employees. BFD/EMS have interviewed several others waiting background checks. BFD/EMS have several more applicants to interview. Robert Moon asked about the Dissolution of the Fire Dist. was mentioned that it would be addressed later in the agenda.

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

Motion to approve the Brodhead Fire Commission Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2023.

Motion made by A. Schneider

Seconded by T. Simpson

Motion Passed

6. Reports of departments activities:

a. Firefighters Inc.: Nothing at this time

b. Fire Inspector: Nothing at this time

c. Fire Chief:

Notes from Officers Meeting:

Reviewed 4 articles to be posted on Chief's Corner on Brodhead Fire Dist. website, Independent Reg. and to post Facebook -ISO Ratings, MABAS, Wis. Burn Statistics and BFD Numbers for 2022.

*2nd Assistant Chief Pinnow and Admin. Assist. Osborne compiled data in several categories for the 257 calls from 2022.

1.) City 148 calls vs Rural 82 calls with MABAS response to another community 27.

2.) Breakdown of calls: 1st Response 48, Canceled 43, Fire Response 57, Lift Assist 34, MABAS 27, Med Assist Brodhead 850- 44, Med Assist another community 4.

3.) By time of the day spreadsheet provided to the Fire Dist.

4.) Days of the week, Type of call, avg. # of responders and avg # on the standby spreadsheet provided to the Fire Dist.

*Fire Officers reviewed a 25 year budget put together by 2nd Assistant Chief Pinnow

*BFD should aggressively pursue volunteers by increasing the paid on shift and advertising the fact. Paid on Shift was introduced in February Regular Meeting with firefighters. Goal is to implement March 1, 2023 once Adm. Assist. Osborne learns how to run a scheduling software.

d. Life Quest: Nothing at this time

7. New Business

a. Brodhead Fire District Dissolution Discussion/Possible Action:

A. Schneider gave update on status of the dissolution:

Rural Ad Hoc and City Ad Hoc have met. In Rural letter to the City, Rural proposed bringing in an outside consultant. Rural Ad Hoc and City Ad Hoc met virtually with an outside consultant. Consultant provided a menu of items that could be discussed and asked for Ad Hoc Committees to narrow down. Ad Hoc Committees felt 7 items useful. Next, will be getting a cost from the consultant. Can only have 1 client was decided Brodhead Fire District would be the client. Once the consultant has a price for services. Brodhead Fire District will have a special meeting to approve payment for service.

T. Simpson read a letter to the Brodhead Fire District as follows:

I first want to state I support all of our Volunteer FireFighters and Emergency Personnel and I Thank you for your dedicated service. I know what it is like to be called out at any time of the day or night and I sincerely appreciate all of your commitments to providing emergency services to our local communities. Thank you very much!

I would like to further go on the record as supporting the Brodhead Fire District adding Emergency Medical Services. I have been to every meeting and have supported every motion to add EMS to the Brodhead Fire District. I have voted in support of hiring a full time Administrator and a full time Fire Chief. I have been on the Bylaws Committee and voted to recommend the paid-on Staff and the paid-on Premise which has been voted on and passed by the Brodhead Fire District.

I regret the vote that was passed by the Brodhead City Council to dissolve the Brodhead Fire District and I will move to try and Vacant the Dissolution Resolution that the Brodhead City Council passed. I want us to be able to move forward with making the Brodhead Fire District

better able to service all of the citizens of the district with their emergencies. I have a few thoughts of how that can best be done and they are not all mine.

I would start by offering a couple of Amendments to the Brodhead Fire District some of which have already been discussed but not acted on.

1. Agree to the Amendment that was offered by Rurals Atty Landau to add Emergency Medical Services to the Brodhead Fire District.
2. Agree to an Amendment that the Brodhead City Mayor and Treasurer sit as ex officio members of the Brodhead Fire District board.
3. Agree to an Amendment with regards to the budgeting process that would put a limit on how much the budget can raise from year to year. If the budget must be raised beyond that limit all Brodhead Fire District voting members must be in favor of that increase or there at least needs to be an adequate amount of time allowed in order for the City of Brodhead to come up with the funding for a large increase.

If anyone has other ideas that would improve the Brodhead Fire District's main goal of providing emergency services to the community, please offer them to myself or any of the board members.

Thank you

b. 2023 budget revision for Municipalities Service Fee to Brodhead Area EMS and payment

Discussion/Possible Action.

Discussion about payment of the Brodhead Area EMS per capita that was invoiced to each municipality. When the 2023 budget for Brodhead Fire Dist. was passed on the assumption that the merger would have been completed with Brodhead Area EMS. Brodhead Fire Dist. feels it is only right that Brodhead Fire Dist pay for the per capita invoices to Brodhead EMS.

S. Hazeltine was in contact with the Brodhead Fire Dist. Atty along with the Rural and City Atty. They did not see an issue with paying the Brodhead Area EMS per capita charged to the municipalities. S. Hazeltine was waiting for a letter from the attorney to have written approval. A.Schneider made a motion to pay the Municipalities Service Fee to Brodhead Area EMS in the amount of \$121,540.00

Seconded by P. Faessler

Motion Passed

c. Gift Agreement between Brodhead Fire District and Brodhead Area EMS

Discussion/Possible Action

Review of the Gift Agreement between Brodhead Fire District and Brodhead Area EMS. Attorney sent over revisions that were requested from both parties. It was voted on at a previous meeting that the Gift Agreement between Brodhead Fire Dist. and Brodhead Area EMS be tabled until the Dissolution to the Brodhead Fire District is resolved. Maybe be revisited in the future.

d. Bylaw Committee-Discussion/Possible Action:

2nd Assistant Chief Pinnow is requesting a meeting with the bylaw committee to review updates to the Paid on Shift. Meeting scheduled for February 22, 2023 5:00 PM Brodhead Fire Station

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

Operating Account Balance: \$590,793.03

Money Market Capital Account Balance: \$62,040.20

Total Accounts Balance: \$652,833.23

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

Seconded by P. Naramore

Motion passed

*Admin Assist. Osborne handed out the Profit & Loss Detail for January through December 2022.

Profit & Loss Detail shows all income received and expenses paid by the Brodhead Fire District in 2022.

f. Payments of Bills-Discussion/Possible Action:

January Bills paid after January 10, 2023 Meeting:

AT&T (Dec) \$72.00, Bedward, Rick (Paid on Premise 12/31/2022) \$1,316.00,

Brodhead Water and Light Final bill 2022 \$10.16, Brodhead Water & Light \$407.19,

Ecowater \$23.00, Emergency Med. Supplies (Dec) \$373.55,

Fire Inspection Services (2022) \$2,220, Gasser (Dec) \$107.64, Green Co. Fire Officers \$110.00,

Griffin, Tiffany (Paid on Premise 12/31/2022) \$240.00, Napa (Dec) \$12.25,

Sewer-City of Brodhead \$120.65, Speich (Dec) \$191.69, SWANI \$2,320.00,

Wis. State Firefighter \$50.00, Wis. State Firefighter \$25.00

January Credits received after January 10, 2023 Meeting:

Brodhead Area EMS \$859.00, Stanley Everson \$60.00, Ronald Withee \$60.00,

Town of Decatur \$156,899.39, Town of Magnolia \$14,743.65.

February Bills paid at February 7, 2023 Meeting:

AT&T \$42.99, Big Radio \$1008.00, Brodhead Water & Light \$418.33,

Brodhead Free Press \$300.00, Capital One \$790.37, Decatur Dairy \$103.04, EcoWater \$23.00,

Gasser \$48.49, Griffin, Tiffany (Paid on Premise 1/15/2023) \$234.00, Napa \$386.48,

SWANI \$52.50, Spectrum \$202.34, Speich \$311.75, SWANI \$57.50,

WE Energies \$678.19, Wright World Sports \$158.00.

February Credits received at February 7, 2023 Meeting

Alan Timm \$60.00, Town of Spring Valley \$20,800.99, Town of Avon \$14,917.05,

City of Brodhead \$241,910.32, Town of Spring Grove \$63,151.98.

Motion to approve Payment of Bills by T. Simpson

Seconded by P. Faessler

Motion passed

8. Closed Session

a.) Per WI State Statutes Section 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility:

Fire Chief and Officers Positions and Compensation

b) Motion to move into closed session - Motion to move into closed session made by A. Schneider. Seconded by P. Naramore- Roll call vote - Hazeltine, Simpson, A. Schneider, P. Naramore, P. Faessler-All Ayes in closed session.

c) Motion to return to open session- Motion to return to open session made by A. Schneider. Seconded by P. Faessler back to open session.

d) Possible Action from closed session

*Motion by T. Simpson to hire Chief R. Scheidegger part-time 5 days a week, 4 hours a day for \$30.00 per hour. Seconded by P. Faessler.

*Motion by P. Faessler to promote Richard Pinnow from Captain to 2nd Assistant Chief and Lt. Troy Gerber to Captain. Leaving 2 spots for Lieutenant to be filled. Seconded by A. Schneider

*Motion by P. Faessler to increase the Assistant Chief's wage from \$1,000.00 a year to \$2,000.00 a year. Seconded by A. Schneider.

9. Commission Comments or Questions:

This is the Commissions opportunity to speak about anything that is not a specific agenda item.

P. Faessler discussed how assessments are calculated for Brodhead Fire Dist.

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

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 5:00 PM Brodhead Fire Station**

11. Motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn at 5:51 PM by T. Simpson

Seconded by P. Faessler

Meeting adjourned

Heather Osborne

Brodhead Fire District Admin. Asst.