

Fire Commission Meeting

Middleton Fire District

City of Middleton, Town of Middleton, Town of Springfield, Town of Westport

Thursday, January 16, 2014

6:00 PM

MIFD Station 1

7600 University Avenue

Middleton, WI

Commission Members Present: Ken Sipsma, Howard Teal, Dan Dresen, Julie Brunette, Milo Breunig

Commission Members Absent: None.

Officers Present: Chief Aaron Harris, Assistant Chief Gary Gillitzer, Battalion Chief Brad Subera, Battalion Chief Scott Lindblom, Battalion Chief Jesse Schluter, Captain Mark Kampe, Captain Matt Reigel, Captain Jason Koski, Captain Willis Hofmeister, Lieutenant Jeremy Cushman

Others Present: Mary Roessler

The meeting was called to order by Sipsma at 6:01 p.m.

1. Approval of the January 16th Agenda Posting

- Motion made by Brunette and seconded by Dresen to approve the January 16th Agenda posting. Roessler confirmed the agenda was properly posted. Motion passed.

2. Reconsideration of November 21st, 2013 Minutes

- Roessler noted that there was an omission to the November 21st minutes that was brought to her attention. Item # 6, last bullet point, should have "Motion passed" inserted.
- Motion made by Brunette and seconded by Dresen to amend the November 21st, 2013 minutes as noted above. Motion passed.

3. Approval of the December 19th Minutes

- Motion made by Dresen and seconded by Brunette to approve the December 19th Minutes. Motion passed.

Breunig arrived.

4. Inspection Report

- Subera reported that MATC students taking the Fire Inspector Class performed their preceptorship (job shadow) with him doing inspections as part of their course curriculum. Inspector Bob Weber is finishing up the re-inspections completed during the preceptorship to confirm compliance.

5. Education Report

- Subera reported the following activities since the last report:
 - 2 fire extinguisher education trainings
 - 7 station education sessions
 - 20 education sessions away from the station
 - 5 fire truck displays and kid parades
 - 42 inspections
 - 4 strategic education sessions
 - Public education sessions with 209 adults and 1,884 children
- Subera compared 2012 and 2013 contacts as follows:

	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Adults	2395	1663
Children	4022	4223

- Breunig requested some education program photos to display at the Middleton Town Hall. Brunette stated she would like to see public education photos put in the Middleton Times Tribune.

6. Personnel Report

- Harris reported current personnel numbers total 115 and include: 79 Firefighters, 17 Rehab Technicians, 7 Fire Corps, and 12 Junior Firefighters.
- Harris noted three Firefighters have stepped down since the last meeting. Two (Joe Gangler and Dan Erickson) have taken jobs as career firefighters and one (Paul Shivelor) retired after almost 29 years of service.
- Harris stated that the goal of having trained Firefighters in the building as often as possible, referred to as "Strategic Staffing", is going well. There is a fitness class for firefighters only that is meeting three times per week for the next six weeks, which is attended by approximately 20 firefighters.
- Schluter noted that in 2012 there were about 2800 staffing hours due to the fitness program. Schluter will report on 2013 total hours at an upcoming meeting.
- Teal suggested sending the photo of the fire crew exercising into the Middleton Times Tribune. Brunette suggested putting something in the Middleton Times Tribune on a monthly basis.

7. MIFD Operations Report

- Harris reported that there have been 58 calls since the last meeting.
- Harris noted that total incidents for 2013 were 621, compared to 611 in 2012.
- Harris reported on the following notable incidents since the last meeting:
 - Vehicle fire at Brittany Apartments
 - Kitchen fire at Valencia Place
 - Several calls for water pipe/sprinkler head bursts at area businesses due to extreme cold weather.
 - Oven fire at Pheasant Branch Senior Apartments
- Harris noted that the Annual State Firefighters Conference will be held in Middleton this March and he will be teaching a few classes entitled: 2^o Beyond Tradition, Core Based Proficiency Training (CBPT), and Rapid Response Vehicle.

8. Update on Dane County Interoperable Radio Communications System (DaneCom)

- Harris reported that as of today, the switch over to Wisconsin Interoperable Radio System (Wiscom) is complete and operational. The system seems to be functioning well for what it was designed for. There are some areas lacking good coverage from the portable radio (hand held) units to the 911 Center. Mobile radios (mounted in apparatus) have a much stronger signal. The protocol will be to switch to a tactical channel that goes directly from portable to portable (not through a tower) for better communication.

9. Update on Pre-Alert Page and Page Delay Concerns

- Harris noted that the equipment has been purchased and is being configured. Meetings will resume once equipment is in place. They remain on track to meet the March 1, 2014 implementation date.

10. 2013 Year End Budget Update

- Harris reported that it appears the MIFD will be under budget for 2013, but final numbers will not be known for another month or two. Currently, there appears to be a large balance, but this includes income from fitness program, petroleum tank inspections, sale of Engine, and funds held for the new Rapid Response vehicle, etc. Harris will provide a summary when numbers are final.

11. Approval of Monthly Bills. Discussion/Action

- Motion made by Breunig and seconded by Dresen to approve the January monthly bills. Motion passed.

12. Correspondence/Communication Update

- Roessler reported that thank you notes were received from:

General Public:

- A homeowner that appreciated our response to a gas odor call at her home.
- A homeowner that thanked us for responding to a CO detector scare.
- AARP Driver Safety Program for using one bay to hold a Car Fit event for Senior Citizens to check out their vehicles for safety features.

Fire Service:

- Joe Gangler, who recently left the MIFD to take a career firefighter job in Virginia.
- Mitch Nachreiner, who job shadowed Chief Harris for a day at Station 1.
- Teal wanted to complement the MIFD staff regarding the responses to the area businesses with broken water pipes. He heard from three different businesses about how helpful and thorough the MIFD crew was in their efforts.
- Brunette noted that on Christmas Eve a neighbor of hers had a CO alarm call and appreciated the response.

13. Proposal of Future Agenda Items

- Update on Core Based Proficiency Training (CBPT). (Breunig).

14. Motion to Adjourn

- Motion made by Brunette and seconded by Dresen to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

January 16th, 2014 Minutes submitted by Mary Roessler.



Mary Roessler

Secretary

Approved: February 20, 2014