

## Fire Commission Meeting

Middleton Fire District

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

**Thursday, February 20, 2014**

**6:00 PM**

**MIFD Station 1**

**7600 University Avenue**

**Middleton, WI**

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

**Commission Members Absent:** Julie Brunette

**Officers Present:** Chief Aaron Harris, Assistant Chief Gary Gillitzer, Battalion Chief Brad Subera, Battalion Chief Randy Acker, Battalion Chief Jesse Schluter, Captain Mark Kampe, Captain Willis Hofmeister

**Others Present:** Rod Zubella, John Miller, Mary Roessler

The meeting was called to order by Sipsma at 6:00 p.m.

### **1. Approval of the February 20<sup>th</sup> Agenda Posting**

- Motion made by Teal and seconded by Breunig to approve the February 20<sup>th</sup> Agenda posting. Roessler confirmed the agenda was properly posted. Motion passed.

### **2. Approval of the January 16<sup>th</sup> Minutes**

- Motion made by Dresen and seconded by Breunig to approve the January 16<sup>th</sup> Minutes. Motion passed.

### **3. Personnel Report**

- Harris reported personnel numbers remain the same totaling 115 and include: 79 Firefighters, 17 Rehab Technicians, 7 Fire Corps, and 12 Junior Firefighters.
- Harris noted that at the end of March, John Miller, Safety Officer, will be retiring after 47 years of service with the MIFD.

### **4. MIFD Operations Report**

- Harris reported that there have been 52 calls since the last meeting.
- Harris reported on the following notable incidents since the last meeting:
  - Chimney fire in the Town of Middleton
  - Charred floor from dehumidifier in the City of Middleton
  - Stove fire in the City of Middleton. Harris also noted a delay of approximately 6 minutes before being paged on this call.
  - House fire in attic of vacant house on Hwy Q and Century Avenue
  - House fire in the Town of Windsor (mutual aid) where we provided an Engine and a Tender.
  - Fire at the Brittany Apartments in the City of Middleton. Rescued four individuals from balconies, two individuals from inside, and several animals.
  - Garage fire on Jonquil Court in the City of Middleton.
  - Vehicle fire that Acker put out with his personal vehicle extinguisher.
- Harris gave presentations to the Optimist Club and City Council recently regarding a general overview of the MIFD and his philosophy to be proactive versus reactive. The Optimist Club donated money to the MIFD and smoke detectors were purchased and given out to City Council members for them to share with someone in need. If there are others in our District in need of a smoke detector or batteries, the MIFD will make attempts to provide.

5. **Proposed Modification to Station 2 Lease – Rod Zubella**
  - Rod Zubella, from Vierbicher (Town of Middleton engineers) appeared. Zubella made a presentation in support of the Town of Middleton's request for a modification of the Station 2 lease. The Town wants to use open land encompassed in the MIFD lease for Town improvements, in particular the construction of a new salt shed and cold storage facility. A lengthy discussion followed. Chief Harris indicated there were no public safety concerns with the Town's proposed improvements. The Commission was generally supportive of the proposal so long as MIFD aesthetic concerns are addressed and consideration is given to the District and MIFD for concessions made in the proposed modification. Chief Harris was directed to engage in discussions with the Town to address these issues. This item will remain on the agenda for the Commission's next regularly scheduled meeting.
6. **Update on Core Base Proficiency Training (CBPT)**
  - Harris requested this agenda item be deferred until next month.
7. **Update on Pre-Alert Page and Page Delay Concerns**
  - Harris noted that the 911 Center issues have been in the press recently and he distributed a recent article from the Wisconsin State Journal. Harris has sent emails to the Pre-Alert Page Committee over the last month to check status. There has been a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 26th at Station 1 to move this issue forward.
8. **2013 Year End Budget Update**
  - Harris reported that he spoke with Dan Nelson, of the City of Middleton, and received updated budget numbers for 2013. The numbers show approximately \$32,000 carryover from 2012 and \$90,000 in income. It is estimated that the MIFD will be under budget by approximately \$20,000 for 2013.
9. **Approval of Monthly Bills. Discussion/Action**
  - Motion made by Teal and seconded by Dresen to approve the February monthly bills. Motion passed.
10. **Correspondence/Communication Update**
  - Roessler reported that thank you notes were received from:  
**General Public:**
    - Middleton Outreach Ministry for Middleton Fire Company No. 1's involvement with Canstruction, local food drives, and financial support.
    - A homeowner that appreciated our response to get her back into her locked condo.
    - The Middleton-Cross Plains School District for using our large meeting room for an administrative training session.
  - Teal thanked Harris for giving a presentation to the City Council recently.
11. **Proposal of Future Agenda Items**
  - Update on Core Based Proficiency Training (CBPT). (Breunig).
  - Proposed Modification to Station 2 Lease
  - 2013 Year End Budget Update
  - Dresen suggested holding the next Fire Commission Meeting at Station 2.
12. **Motion to Adjourn**
  - Motion made by Teal and seconded by Breunig to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Minutes submitted by Mary Roessler.



Mary Roessler  
Secretary

Approved: March 20, 2014