

Tuesday May 20th, 2024.

Meeting called to order by Jena Paquette at 6:30 p.m.

Members present on roll call: Jena Paquette, Gary Johnson, Len Manning.
Others Present: Mark Anderson, Jessy Mattocks, John Sorensen, Jim Duncan.

Public comments: No Public Comments

Update on joint Fire Department training opportunities. Jim Duncan will be holding an educational workshop on Tuesday June 4th, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m. located at the Fire Hall for any departments looking to gain experience utilizing the Village Fire Hydrants. This workshop is open to fire department members throughout the area looking to gain a basic understanding on how to operate a hydrant within the Village of Balsam Lake for mutual aid purposes.

Review of Fire & EMS calls for service for the month of May. Fire chief Mark Anderson distributed copies of the call sheets thus far for the month of May.

Discussion and possible action regarding Fire & EMS responding protocols. Fire Chief Mark Anderson distributed the current Fire & EMS responding protocols. It was noted some department members are showing up to fire calls or accidents without any safety equipment or fire trucks. The last time the policy was updates was in 2010. It was noted the policy should be evaluated on a more regular basis moving forward. Questions were asked to the Chief if he has reprimanded individuals who do not follow the responding protocols and the Chief noted it doesn't work.

Discussion and possible action regarding fire protection agreement between the Apple River Fire Department and the Village of Balsam Lake for 2024. The Public Protection Committee reviewed the draft agreement from Apple River Township for Apple River Fire Department support in 2024. The estimated cost to the village would be \$36,400.00 or \$1,400.00 per full section of coverage by ARFD. No formal motion was made but the committee would like this item added to the next Village Board agenda for the full board to review.

Discussion and possible action regarding quote from Industrial Safety of Draeger SCBAs.
Motion by Len Manning to recommend to the Village Board purchasing 2 Draeger SCBA's from Industrial Safety with \$7,666.00 expensed out of the BLFD capital equipment outlay account at \$7,000.00 to be expensed from the BLFD fundraising account. Second by Gary Johnson. All in Favor. Carried.

Discussion and possible action regarding combining Fire Departments. Milltown Fire Association Chief John Sorensen was in attendance. Mr. Sorensen stated he has been in contact with surrounding municipalities and would like to add the Village of Centuria, Village of Balsam Lake and the Township of Balsam Lake to the Milltown Fire Association. Many benefits to the merging of departments for financial purposes and for personnel

coverage. **Motion by Len Manning to recommend to the Village Board starting discussions with Milltown Fire Associations regarding combining fire departments. Second by Gary Johnson. All in Favor. Carried.**

Discussion and possible action to appoint members from each municipality to an ad-hoc committee. **Motion by Len Manning to recommend to the Village Board, Gary Johnson and Len Manning be appointed to the ad-hock public protection committee to assist with the merging of fire departments. Second by Gary Johnson. All in Favor. Carried.**

Fire Chief Report. Chief Anderson reports there have been four rescues runs and three fire calls this month.

Motion by Len Manning to adjourn. Seconded by Gary Johnson. All in Favor. Carried. 7:41 p.m.

Unapproved Minutes

Amy VanDeBrake, Clerk Treasurer