



**Committee Members Present:** Chairman John Johnson, Village of Sturtevant Administrator Mary Cole, Mt. Pleasant Village Administrator Maureen Murphy, Village of Mt. Pleasant Trustee Ken Otwaska and Lawrence (Bud) Eastman

**Committee Members Absent:** None

**Village Board Members Present:** John Hewitt (Mt. Pleasant) and Theresa Ailes (Village of Sturtevant)

**Staff Members to the Board:** Chief Robert Stedman

1. **Roll Call** - Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair John Johnson.
2. **Guests:** DC Ed Lockhart, BC Salvo, BC Keiser, BC Radewan, Lt. DeRosier, Lt. Brauer, and Lt. Wienke
3. **Approval of January 4, 2018 Minutes:**

A motion was made by Bud Eastman and seconded by Ken Otwaska to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2018 meeting. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

4. **Operational Report and Update:** Chief Stedman referred to the Operational Report that was dated February 2, 2018 that was distributed to the Committee Members.
  - a. Currently there no members on FMLA or off duty for any long term reasons.
  - b. The department is all set to start using the electronic fire inspection reporting system with iPads starting this month as the initial training has been completed. The old fire inspection records are going to be moved to the computer network.
  - c. We are making some changes to our fire inspection programs and we will start using a number of State Certified Fire Inspectors to conduct fire inspections on target hazards.

A number of reasons:

- Better training in fire inspection codes and practices
  - Larger occupancies take longer to inspect and we have constant interruptions with company personnel on emergency vehicles having to leave to go on emergency calls
  - Usually we make appointments to inspect these properties and a maintenance person accompanies the SSFD personnel and their time is valuable as well
  - Better follow-up with code violations
- d. The work on the used ambulance that was purchased to be used for a remount has started on the modular box and the chassis has been delivered to Foster Coach Sales. We did make a prepayment which earns interest at the rate of 3% usually resulting in about a \$1,000 credit to



be used against the final invoice. It is expected that the completed remount ambulance should be delivered in mid to late April. If any members of the committee are interesting in going with us on an inspection trip arrangement scan be made.

- e. We will be making the trip to Emergency One, Inc. next week to conduct the final inspection and testing of the new Quint. It is expected that the Quint will be delivered to the department sometime in late February or early March. Then on about April 18<sup>th</sup>. Emergency-One will pick up the vehicle to take to Indianapolis to be displayed at the Fire Department Instructors Conference from April 23-28 and then we will receive it back.
- f. The SSFD change as to how we respond to the Village of Caledonia went into effect on January 1, 2018 and it has been working well. We did meet with Caledonia FD to work out the details and concerns both FD's had. Again we will also respond to any fire calls in Caledonia on mutual aid or MABAS calls.
- g. The offer to purchase the land for the EMS Station subject to zoning change was accepted. The cost of the land, which is about .66 acres was \$40,000 and it is located on the east side of Emmertsen Road just south of Spring Street. The Plan Commission will meet on January 15<sup>th</sup> and recommend approval for the zoning change. The Public Hearing will be conducted at 6:30 pm on February 8<sup>th</sup> following by a Village of Mt. Pleasant Village Board meeting to act on the zoning change. There were a number of residents around the location that have expressed their concerns and a number of them have signed a petition to stop the rezoning.

Plunkett Raysich Architects has completed Phase 1 of the design of the EMS station with information and a rendering that can be used for the zoning change meetings. Phase 2 of the architects work will include designing the station along with bid specifications. Phase 2 could be completed by the middle of March and then the project could be placed out for bids in late March.

- h. The department is moving forward with the development of a Technical Rescue Team in order to meet the needs of the communities. The department has 26 members that are started training in January for our Special Rescue Team program. Initially the members will attend 2 - 40-hour rope rescue training classes followed by a 40 – hour Trench rescue course in April. In fall, they will attend a confined space and collapse rescue courses. All of the members are attending the classes either on duty or off-duty, but those that attend off duty are not being paid they have all volunteered. It was estimated that sending 15 members to a 40-hour class and if we had to pay overtime it would be about \$30,000 per course.
- i. We have not sold the old white 1992 Emergency One Quint yet, but we are still working with the dealer to get the best price possible. The real problem is its very old and parts are difficult to obtain. It does appear to be a possibility that that the dealer will purchase it if we can't see it.
- j. The issue of replacing fire apparatus has been placed on hold, but we plan on requesting a meeting with both Village Boards after the April election. We have been having significant



repairs on multiple fire apparatus the last four months so the need to replace the aging fleet will only become more critical.

- k. We are moving towards taking back emergency responses to the area of I-94 that belongs to the Village of Mt. Pleasant. There will be a meeting soon with DOT about the road construction and after that there will be a meeting of the fire departments and then we will announce that we will start responding to I-94.
- l. The SSFD will need to replace the heart monitors in the very near future. The current ten (10) units we have are older and have had some recall issues. Now we are in a situation where the manufacturer is no longer repairing them and parts are not available. When these ten units were purchased it done through a five (5) year lease purchase program. The cost to replace the ten units will be about \$30,000 each. We will be bringing additional information to the committee in the near future in order to be prepared for the 2019 budgeting process.
- m. We have had some discussion with the union leadership about the idea of hiring lateral transfers and we are going to approach the Police & Fire Commission with the idea in the near future. Lateral transfer means hiring new personnel that are currently full-time with another fire department. The process would be on the salary schedule they would not start at the bottom, but somewhere between a starting firefighter and a full paid five year firefighter pay.
- n. The process would need to be approved by the P&F Commission, the Union, and the Village Board. Except for the starting pay everything else such as seniority, vacation, etc. would be the same as it is now for a new firefighter/paramedic. The benefit is that with hiring six new firefighter/paramedics we could hire some that came with full-time experience and may apply for a position except for a possible pay cut they would take in the beginning. With experienced personnel the costs for training initially and long term should be lower.
- o. The SSFD will have four (4) GTC paramedic students that will be precepting with our department for the spring semester. A couple of our Firefighter/Paramedics were part of the interview process with the potential interns. Two of the interns are full-time firefighters with other fire departments and have expressed an interest in the lateral transfer program as they heard some of our members talking about it.
- p. The following table reflects the number and percentage of calls per station for the year to date ending January 31, 2018.

<b>2018 Annual Calls By Station Through January 31, 2018</b>		
#7	30	8.6%
#8	83	23.9%
#9	129	37.1%
#10	88	25.3%



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Mutual Aid	7	2.0%
Other	11	3.2%
Total	348	100%

5. **High School Internship Program** – Lt. Scott Brauer introduced the two high school interns and briefly discussed the program.
6. **Public Comments & Discussion** – Rees Roberts spoke on the Proposed EMS Station and the fact that he does support the new EMS Station.
7. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for Thursday April 5, 2018 at 4:00 PM at the Village of Sturtevant Safety Building.
8. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Mary Cole and seconded by Ken Otwaska to adjourn.

**Motion passed Unanimously** Meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Robert W. Stedman  
Fire Chief