

FIRE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD APRIL 5,2022

The Fire Oversight Committee met in regular session on April 5, 2022 at 5:33. This meeting was chaired by Mr. Kuhn.

ROLL CALL:

The following members were present at the Call to Order: Lynn Cleveland, Mike Kuhn, Glenn Jirka and Dr. Mark Cross. All present

ALSO PRESENT:

Also present were Fire Chief Dan Alldred, Roni Saul, Administrative Assistant, Chip Wirrig, and Pat Shively.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Glenn Jirka moved to approve the October 5, 2021 minutes with correction that Mr. Jirka was absent for that meeting. Lynn Cleveland second the motion to accept.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

January= 103 Calls for service
February= 78 Calls for service
March= 99 Calls for service

Increase in call volume so far this year about 13% over the same three months in 2021.
243(2021) 280(2022)

Yearly total calls for service: 2021 = 1092 2020=1029 2019= 1004 2018= 984

Two structure fires this year: 1 end of January-detached garage
1 mid-February- residence

GFE responded to 17 Motor vehicle crashes this year so far.

As of today at 292 calls for the year.

Manpower – lack of- continues to be the department's biggest issue. There appears to be not that much interest in becoming a Firefighter/ EMT anymore. Not just a local problem but one that has become a national problem. Part of the problem is low pay scale for part time Fire-EMS employees across the board, however many departments are struggling to find qualified candidates to fill full-time positions with Fire-EMS.

Many local Fire Departments around the area have increased pay rates in an attempt to keep employees from leaving to private ambulance services or changing career fields altogether.

At tonight's Germantown City Council meeting council persons will be asked to consider and approve increased hourly pay rates for this departments part time and paid on call first responders and also 24 hour paid in house staffing in an effort to retain who we have and to lure prospective new employees to want to work with us. You are seeing this before City Council- although at last month's meeting they were made aware of the necessity for this action to be considered.

GFE has two FF/EMTB in Paramedic class right now (anticipated completion December)

And one FF/EMT in Advanced class. (anticipated completion in May?).

GFE has applied for a grant for a turnout gear extractor (washer) through Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation- FEEG Firefighter Exposure to Environmental Elements Grant submitted- waiting on word. This will be a nice addition to the safety and health of our firefighters.

Purchased Milwaukee battery operated chain saw with funds received from a Butler Rural Community Connection Grant. \$500.00

Plan Reviews and/or Inspections of three commercial build sites: Neff Lawn Care on Eckhart Road, Germantown Christian School on Eby Road and Physician Office on Beechwood.

Hydrant check will begin hopefully week of April 11th-weather permitting.

Yearly Hose Testing scheduled to take place April 13th.

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS REPORT:

Dr. Cross spoke briefly about the Fire Marshalls meeting that he attended.

BUSINESS:

Pat Shively and Chip Wirrig were present to talk about the Basketball court project. The construction of the new Public Safety Building infringed into the park and some of the Basketball area so the Fire Department is to take \$30,000.00 to \$50,000.00 out of the budget to help cover the cost of moving the court with a completion date of August 2022.

Roll Call:

Dr. Cross

Mr. Jirka

Mr. Cleveland

Mr. Kuhn

Motion made by Mr. Jirka to approve and Dr. Cross to second the motion. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the committee, Mr. Cleveland motioned to adjourn, Dr. Cross Reed 2nd the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 pm