

STANWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
April 26, 2018

Location:

The Public Safety Committee meeting was held at the Stanwood School District Administration Building (26920 Pioneer Hwy). Started at 1825 hours.

Attendance:

City Council Members – Larry Sather, Tim Pearce, Elizabeth Callaghan
Police Chief – Norm Link
City Administrator- Ryan Larsen
Fire Chief-John Cermak
Fire Commissioners for North County Fire-Greg Oakes, Larry Longley
Citizen-Tim Schmitt
Finance Director-Dave Hammond

Agenda Topics: 1st Quarter North County Fire Report
RFA Plan Amendment

1st Quarter North County Fire Report

Chief Cermak presented the 1st quarter report for North County Fire. There were no questions or comments.

RFA Plan Amendment

Chief Cermak explained a few amendments to the proposed Regional Fire Authority (RFA) plan. The first amendment dealt with Station 99 ownership and operation. Under the amendment, the transfer of Station 99 to the RFA would revert back to the city should the station not be used for fire or emergency services. The training/community room in Station 99 would continue to be available to the community and for use as the city emergency operations center.

The next issue Chief Cermak spoke about pertained to governance. Chief Cermak detailed two options for governance. There would be seven total seats on the RFA governing board in both options. Option A would divide the RFA into 3 districts with one commissioner per district and four positions at large. The Stanwood City Council would be responsible for filling two of those positions initially until elections could be held.

Option B would have two commissioners for each of the three districts and one at large position.

Council member Callaghan stated the community might be more interested in option A, which would mirror the current commissioner composition a little more. Sometimes there is a struggle filling seats on the commission and having four at large positions would create a larger potential pool of applicants. After some discussion, council members Larry Sather and Tim Pearce also agreed that option A would be best for the city.

Chief Cermak advised that an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) would need to be developed for fire prevention services, fire investigations, and emergency management for the City of Stanwood. Chief Cermak advised that the current ILA would be clarified and it was anticipated that it would cost .25 FTE of a chief fire officer to handle those responsibilities for the city.

Finance director David Hammond brought up that costs really need to be clearly laid out; especially as it relates to those areas and who is responsible for these services.

There was discussion about how long the ILA would be good for and how would the city or the RFA reopen the agreement or amend it if needed? The committee suggested that the costs adjust along with any new collective bargaining agreements and eight years seemed like an appropriate time frame. The committee was also advised that the city could de-annex from the RFA if it chose to.

Finance director Hammond advised that there would be another joint meeting with the fire authority on May 24 and talks about costs and timelines would occur

at that meeting. The next step would likely be to pass a resolution to put this on the November ballot.

The PSC committee meeting ended at 1825hrs.