

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a regular meeting of the Albany Area Fire Board was called to order by Chairman Tom Kasner at 7:00 o'clock in the evening on Tuesday, July 23, 2013, in the Council Room at 400 Railroad Avenue in and for the City of Albany, Stearns County, Minnesota.

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| Board members present were: | Fire Chief Town of Albany City of Albany Town of Krain Town of Farming | Dean Mitchell Tim Nierenhausen Tom Kasner Scot Laing Neil Franz |
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Board members absent were: None

Others members of the Fire Department present were: Gary Winkels, Assistant Fire Chief, and Kurt Richter, Assistant Fire Chief, Jamie Thelen, Treasurer, Steve Frericks, Secretary, and Rolland Hanson, Fireman.

Chairman Tom Kasner called for any additions or corrections to the minutes of February 21st and hearing none declared them approved.

Mr. Thelen appeared before the Board to update the Board on the number of calls that were billed out to individuals in 2013 who used the services of the Department that do not reside within the fire district boundaries and noted that there is one outstanding bill from 2012 which was forwarded to a collection agency. Mr. Mitchell informed the Board that a resident from Farming Township who resides outside the Albany Fire District received a bill for emergency services, but strongly objected to pay the Department for the service because his property taxes already support the Albany Fire Department. Mr. Franz noted that the same individual appeared before the Farming Township Board to question why charges from fire departments are not uniform in Farming Township because the township pays three fire departments for service coverage. Mr. Mitchell noted that other area fire departments charge for services whether individuals reside in or out of the fire district and that the policy of the Albany Fire Board is to charge for services for those who reside out of the fire district. Mr. Franz informed the Board that he will contact the other two fire departments to discuss their billing for service policy that relate to residents within Farming Township. Chairman Tom Kasner, with the consensus of the Board, noted that the billing policy not be amended.

Mr. Frericks appeared before the Board to note that since December 17, 2012 to the present, the Department responded to 89 calls that include fire, medical, and mutual aid.

Mr. Hanson appeared before the Board to inform the Board that the manufacturer informed him that the new tanker/pumper truck will be delivered in August. Mr. Hanson noted that the manufacturer encountered personnel issues which delayed the delivery of the vehicle.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Board that the Department received only one bid in the amount of \$2,850 for the 1995 Ford F700 Cab and Chassis with a 2,000 gallon tank Fire Truck that was publically opened at 3:00 PM, on July 10th. Mr. Mitchell noted that the Department rejected the bid and would consider other alternatives to sell the vehicle.

Mr. Mitchell presented to the Board the following proposed 2014 Budget:

| <u>ITEM</u> | <u>2013</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Part time employees | | |
| Training and Instruction/physicals | | |
| Workers Compensation | \$70,000 | \$70,000 |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Relief | \$42,250 | \$42,250 |
| Office Supplies | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Legal Fees | \$150 | \$150 |
| Telephone | \$2,300 | \$2,300 |
| Legal Notices Publications/Dues | \$2,400 | \$2,400 |
| General Liability Insurance | \$10,000 | \$10,000 |
| Electric Utilities | \$2,500 | \$2,500 |
| Gas Utilities | \$3,600 | \$3,600 |
| Repairs/Maint Building | \$1,500 | \$1,500 |
| Repairs/Maint Equipment | \$16,000 | \$16,000 |
| Capital Investment Fund | \$25,000 | \$25,000 |
| Other Equipment/New | <u>\$2,000</u> | <u>\$2,000</u> |

Total: >>\$178,700 \$178,700

Mr. Mitchell noted that no changes be made to the proposed 2014 Budget. After due discussion, a motion was made by Scot Laing and seconded by Neil Franz to approve the aforesaid Budget in the amount of \$178,700. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Mr. Mitchell presented the following information to the Board relating to the activities of the Department:

- A 2012 FEMA grant was approved for extrication equipment in the amount of \$38,000+/-.
- Vendors are being contacted to determine the appropriate equipment to be purchased.
- The annual Blattner's Golf Tournament (fund raiser) for the Albany and Avon Fire Department will be held at the Albany Golf Club on Monday, August 12th.
- Mike Dirkes retired as a fireman after serving 20+ years.
- Applications for a fireman will close on July 31st.
- Sprinkler system has been installed and operational at the Fire Hall.

Mr. Mitchell informed the Board that he and others attended a meeting at the request by the Chain of Lakes Fire Department to discuss a new Apportionment Agreement to be filed with the MN Department of Revenue between the two departments for territory served in Farming Township. Mr. Mitchell noted that these agreements are executed so the state can distribute aid to all fire departments each year. Mr. Mitchell also noted that the state does not look at geographical boundaries within each township, but rather the territory served is based upon the proportional share of population within a township and the proportional share of tax base. Mr. Schneider noted that many of the agreements are 25 to 45 years old and should be updated more regularly because population and tax base do not remain constant. Mr. Mitchell informed the Board that the current percentage served by the Albany Fire Department in Farming Township is 46% and the proposed calculation is 50.5%, a 4.5% increase. After due discussion, a motion was made by Neil Franz and seconded by Scot Laing to authorize Mr. Mitchell on behalf of the Albany Fire Department to execute an Apportionment Agreement for the fire service area in Farming Township at a percentage of total to be 50.5%. All voted for the motion and it carried.

Chairman Tom Kasner adjourned the meeting at 7:55 PM.

Tom Schneider
Clerk/Adm.