

Marine City Area Fire Authority

Minutes of December 17, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Larry Simons at 7:00 p.m.  
He led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment  
of silence.

Present: Larry Simons, and Don Beaudua; East China  
Steve McConnell, Lisa Hendricks and Mark Posey, Marine City  
Julia Rust and Linda Schwehofer, China Township  
Kelly Fiscelli, Cottrellville

Absent: Tom Whitenight, excused

Communication: None

Approval of Agenda: Motion was made to approve agenda with the addition  
of Item D. Under...New Business (Snow Plowing) by  
Larry Simons, Supported by Linda Schwehofer A/A M/C.

Approval of Minutes: Motion was made by Don Beaudua to approve the Board  
minutes of October 15, 2014. Supported by Mike McConnell  
A/A M/C.

Public Comment: None

Chief's Report: Received and placed on file. The other comment he had  
was that the roof will be scheduled for next week and  
will be completed.

Unfinished Business: Audit Presentation (2013-2014)

- a. Curtis McBride of Curtis McBride-Manley and Co., P.C.  
presented a physical copy of the Audit to the Board  
members. We received, as of June 30, 2014 and un-  
modified and clean opinion for the Fire Authority.  
That it is solid and improving all the time.  
Larry Simons commented that Jennifer and Curtis  
have a good working relationship and communication.
- b. Engine 1 - new bid for rust/body repair  
Chief Slankster reported that we had approved to have  
Ford do it, but in the meantime they closed! St. Clair  
Collision was the best bid so far at \$3,027. Chief  
questioned what the Board wants to do. He felt that  
perhaps we should wait until we check with S and P.  
(Sam Parissi) who is located in the old Ford Building.  
Motion by Larry Simons to take the lesser bid, not to  
exceed \$3,027. Supported by Lisa Hendricks. Roll  
Call vote was taken by all those present. A/A M/C.
- c. New Water Truck update:  
Chief circulated pictures of truck we are looking at  
from Pierce. The price is \$219,550. The truck chief is  
recommending is the one without foam. He would like to  
see us go with a 7-year loan with 20% down.  
This is the truck that Steve McConnell saw in Roscommon.  
This company would do the inspection and train the fire-  
fighters. In addition they would be willing to help us  
unload the ladder truck! Steve would like Jennifer to look  
at financing at North Star. Jennifer did speak to them  
and they are saying 7-years at 3%. Chief since has decided that

to purchase a manual dump tank. Possibly could consider placing older tanker in one of the townships. Dave VandenBossche said a tandem would be safer.

First a motion was made by Lisa Hendricks, supported by Kelly Fiscelli to go \$50,000. down for a 5-year loan, checking on seeing what rate of interest we could get from lending institutions, as well as Capital Leasing Co. and to work on a Budget Amendment. Roll Call Vote was taken by all present. A/A M/C.

2nd. motion was made by Linda Schwehofer, Supported by Julia Rust to purchase Tanker Truck without foam for the purchase price of \$219,550. Roll Call Vote was taken by all present.

A/A M/C.

Auditor, in the audience still, explains that we do need a budget amendment to cover account for initial amount--Total amount. Capital Outlay can be used for yearly payments. \$21,375. has been set aside so far. Trying to come up with more money to apply to the down payment.

- d. Chief's Annual Evaluation:  
Dave VandenBossche said he sent in firefighters/young and old to Lisa Hendricks to give an overall view of the Chief's standing with the men. The evaluations from the Board members showed great satisfaction with the Chief's performance! Glowing, really. No comments from the Chief, but comments from the Board overall, Good Job! We will receive and file the evaluations. The question was raised by Lisa that at our January meeting perhaps we want to set new goals for the Chief.

New Business:

- a. Officer pay change to monthly:  
Chief recommends that the officers have their pay changed to monthly instead of annually, as they do now. Jennifer commented that she saw no problem with doing it that way. Motion by Kelly Fiscelli, Supported by Steve McConnell to implement that change. A/A M/C.
- b. Fire Officers for 2015:  
Assistant Chief: Dave VandenBossche  
Captain: Eric Cottrell  
Lieutenant: Ron Thueme  
Sergeant 1: Wally Drziewicki  
Sergeant 2: Paul Schulte
- c. LED Lighting Upgrade:  
Chief had been looking into LED Lighting. He got a price from Apco to replace all the bulbs (just bulbs) for the inside and outside of station...\$9,165.18 Maybe we could look at in our next budget. Sideline is coming in to check it out and give a labor quote. It took 20 minutes to change out a fixture. There could be a savings of upwards of \$423. per month. Probably do a little at a time.
- d. Snow Plowing: Dave VandenBossche  
Dave was asked if for this next year he be willing to change push, to season? Call it annual. He said yes, and would do for same price. Motion by Linda Schwehofer, Supported

by Don Beaudus to renegotiate contract with Maple Lawn and Landscaping. Roll Call Vote was taken by all present.  
A/A M/C.

Financial Business:

- a. Disbursements through 12/12/14, including payroll -\$74,751.67  
Motion by Linda Schwehofer, Supported by Kelly Fiscelli to approve disbursements, including payroll of \$74,751.67.  
Roll Call Vote was taken by all present. A/A M/C.
- b. Preliminary Finance Statement:/Balance Sheets and Revenue/  
Expenditures  
This was received and placed on file.
- c. Preliminary Budget Schedule for 2015/2016 budget discussion:  
Jennifer handed out a sheet/schedule to the Board Members to give an outline for when they will be preparing the Budget.  
This was received and filed.

Board Members Comments:

Don Beaudua wished evryone a Merry Christmas.  
Mark Posey said good Holidays and that he thought everything was looking good!  
Lisa Hendricks said that the Chief and Jennifer are working together very well. Also that we need to look into the siren issue/not working. Also wished everyone good Holidays.  
Steve McConnell said that the Chief, Jennifer and Dave working very well together. Also that the Fireman's Ball tickets are now available for February 7th, 2015.  
Julia Rust wanted to thank everyone for the Terrarium that she received when her Father died.  
Kelly Fiscelli wanted to thank everyone for the card that she received when her son had the accident back in November. He is doing very well. Happy Holidays to all.  
Linda Schwehofer wanted to thank the firefighters for the wonderful job they do for all of us and a very Merry Christmas to all!  
Chief Slankster wanted to thank Jennifer and our Auditor for a job well done and everyone have a good Christmas.  
Larry Simons felt everyone one on staff doing a good job. He feels things are all going well and we're working on purchasing a second truck.

Our next meeting will be January 21st. if necessary.

Adjournment:

Motion made by Steve McConnell to adjourn meeting at 8:30 p.m.  
Supported by Lisa Hendricks. A/a M/C

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Schwehofer  
Fire Authority Secretary