

VILLAGE OF GERMANTOWN
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MEETING MINUTES
February 20, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Wolter.

ROLL CALL: President Wolter, Trustees Baum, Daniels, Ewert, Hughes, Kaminski and Vanderheiden. Trustees Werderman and Zabel were absent and excused. Also present were Village Administrator Schornack, Village Attorney Sajdak and Village Clerk Goeckner. From Germantown Fire Department: Chief Gary Pollpeter, Mike Maury, Dale Stark, Matthew Karpinski and others.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION (Vanderheiden/Ewert) approve minutes from January 21, 2013, motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF GERMANTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING PROPOSALS

Chief Pollpeter discussed recruitment schedules and options. Trustees suggested other recruitment methods to consider, such as making a video promoting the department and playing it on Channel 25. Trustee Kaminski suggested referring to the National Fire Department website for ideas. Using the July 4th parade as a recruitment tool, have Fire Department Auxiliary set up a booth to talk about the work the Fire Department does, at MaiFest and other festivals and activities. Hold an open house for a day with something for the adults to do as well as the kids. Consider bonus plan for those already on department who recruit other members. Mailing fliers with tax or utility bills. Put something in the Village's recreation booklet. Trustee Kaminski offered to find someone to create the piece. Video should also be linked on the website for persons to view. Chief Pollpeter presented a 10 and 20 year plan for information to consider prior to budgeting. He also presented other staffing options, with the first option pulling from existing staff. Department would not be adding any new people with those options. President Wolter stated if we are just taking from who we have we are not helping to solve the problem at hand with staffing. Discussion of staffing and scheduling and options presented and how to come up with the funds. Consideration of current and future funding and effect on tax levy. Discussion of use of current staff that are already burned out. Stark – Using off duty personnel, anyone not on call who would like to take one of those shifts would give them a day off during their normal schedule. This would be a band aid to the current issues. Necessary to settle union issues between the two contracts before knowing exact wage cost. Discussion of POC, Alternates and contract language, issues and time necessary to complete agreement. Discussion of current schedules, needed schedules, proposed schedules, and callout requirements, pay and hours. Part time person costs \$33,000 per year, full time costs \$100,000 plus per year. Levy limit would require a referendum for funding future years. Consider using existing surplus funds for 2013. Necessary to find funds for future if funding for current year. Discussion of TIF funds available, surplus funds, referendum for increasing tax levy. Estimate of \$93.64 increase in tax on a \$250,000 house or .375 cents per \$1,000 of value. Would go up that amount each year that 2 full time personnel are added. No funds proposed or considered to outfit the firefighter with these proposals. Discussion

of importance of covering public safety and lack of funding. Administrator Schornack stated other municipalities are taking things out of the general fund levy and placing them on the utility bills, such as hydrant costs and solid waste collection. Item to be placed on upcoming GGF meeting agenda for consideration of 2012 surplus funds being applied to Fire Department for 2013. Referendum time line discussion, minimum of 90 day time line and there are no fall elections for 2013. Long term discussion is for future meeting. Discussion that with this option no part timers will be hired. Stark – we would still need to bring in people to relieve some of the stress, but essentially not hiring them, bringing in more people to spread out those shifts. Will lose POC's because they will become part timers. Trustee Hughes – if we are just changing a POC to a part timer we haven't fixed the problem. Further discussion on POC's, part time positions, recruitment efforts, full time department concerns.

Schedule next meeting for Wednesday, March 20th at 6:00 p.m. for further discussion of this issue.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Barbara K. D. Goeckner, MMC WCPC
Village Clerk