

**CITY OF CEDARBURG/TOWN OF CEDARBURG
AD HOC JOINT FIRE/EMS SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Ad Hoc Joint Fire/EMS Services Committee was held Thursday, September 9, 2021 at Cedarburg Fire Station #1, W61 N631 Mequon Avenue, Cedarburg, WI.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson Bill Wattson at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present – City of Cedarburg – Scott Gonwa, Daniel Den Boer

Excused – Council Member Robert Simpson

Town of Cedarburg – Town Supervisor Bill Wattson, Don Borgwardt, Daryl Herrick

Also Present - City Clerk Tracie Sette, Fire Chief Jeff Vahsholtz (arrived at 7:30 p.m.), Deputy Chief Joseph Hintz, Fire Inspector Blake Karnitz and interested citizens.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE

At Vice Chairperson Bill Wattson's request, City Clerk Tracie Sette verified that notice of this meeting was posted in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Don Borgwardt made a motion to approve the August 12, 2021 Joint Fire/EMS Services Committee minutes, seconded by Daryl Herrick. Motion carried without a negative vote with Council Member Simpson excused.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2022 FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFFING LEVELS INCLUDING POTENTIAL COMPENSATION

Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Hintz and Fire Inspector Blake Karnitz distributed a proposal containing six (6) full-time staffing models:

Model #1 staffs a minimum level with two (2) full time Firefighter/AEMT positions, relies heavily on volunteer core, and carries an estimated annual cost starting at \$520,000.

Model #2 is considered the basic level and is recommended by staff. This model contains two (2) full time Firefighter/AEMT positions and two (2) full time Administrative/Firefighter/AEMT positions, guarantees one fully staffed ambulance 24/7/365, relies on a robust volunteer core, and carries an estimated annual cost starting at \$680,000.

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Model #3 is considered a combination of full and part-time positions with two (2) full time and two (2) part time Firefighter/AEMT positions, guarantees one fully staffed ambulance 24/7/365, relies on robust volunteer core during weeknights and weekends, and carries an estimated annual cost starting at \$676,000.

Model #4 is considered intermediate level and is identical to a consolidation. This model contains four (4) full time Firefighter/AEMT positions, guarantees two (2) fully staffed ambulances 24/7/365, significantly lowers reliance on a volunteer core, and carries an estimated first year cost of \$1,020,000.

Model #5 is considered advanced level and consists of nine (9) full time Firefighter/AEMT positions, guarantees two (2) fully staffed ambulances and one (1) engine 24/7/365. The volunteer core would most likely become *paid-on-call* and carries an estimated first year cost of \$2,535,000.

Model #6 is considered complete full time with thirteen (13) full time Firefighter/AEMT positions, guaranteeing two (2) fully staffed ambulances and two (2) engines 24/7/365. The volunteer core would most likely be eliminated and the estimated first year cost is \$3,495,000.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON NEW EMS FEE STRUCTURE

Daniel Den Boer explained the change in the EMS fee structure which was converted from a cafeteria plan to a flat fee. The flat fee structure makes it much easier to manage.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON OVERVIEW OF FUNDING OPTIONS

Funding options will be discussed at a future meeting.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON IDENTIFYING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee would like to discuss funding options at the next meeting. They also requested a breakdown of call statistics along with a breakdown of operating costs and revenues of Model #2. Town Supervisor Bill Wattson expressed interest in clarifying Wisconsin labor laws and hopes to gain attorney input.

ADJOURNMENT

Don Borgwardt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m., seconded by Scott Gonwa. Motion carried without a negative vote with Council Member Simpson excused.

Tracie Sette
City Clerk
City of Cedarburg