

CITY OF FRAZEE

March 2nd, 2009

6:15 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

The special meeting was held in the Frazee City Fire Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hank Ludtke. Council members in attendance were Ouart, Dermody, Miosek, and Jopp. In attendance: Frazee Fire Department, Height of Land Township Representatives, Hobart Township Representatives, Evergreen Township Representatives, Silver Leaf Representatives, and Burlington Township Representatives.

Frazee Fire Department

Paul Thon, Frazee Fire Chief, presented a letter to the Council stating that the Fire Dept. would like to see the fire contracts at a 60/40 split. He stated that the City benefits the most from having the service of the Fire Dept. and should be paying the majority of the budget. Thon, stated that the further out a person is, the less they benefit from the service because of the rapid rate a fire expands. He also stated that Fire Dept. has retired 175 years of experience in the last 15 months but still retain 167 years of experience. Thon stressed the need to resolve the issues of contracting the Fire Dept. services because it is time consuming and frustrating. He reiterated his point that the City should pay the most for fire protection.

Mayor Ludtke asked if there were any comments or concerns from the Council, with no discussion and township representatives still coming in Mayor Ludtke called for a 15 minute recess at 6:35 pm.

Mayor Ludtke reconvened the meeting at 6:57 pm, welcoming and thanking everyone for coming.

Input from Townships

Mayor Ludtke went around the table asking each of the townships how they feel the contracts should be set up. Burlington Township, after having Thon recap his letter, agreed that a 60/40 split would be a good way to divide the expense. Height of Land Township questioned the current contract and how the expense is dispersed; he also agreed that the distance should play a part in determining the cost. HOL was in favor a formula based upon an average call and market value formula but would really like to see the City pay 50% and allocate the other 50% to the Townships. Hobart Township stated they are in attendance to see where everyone else stands and to find out what to anticipate for the upcoming contract years. Silver Leaf Township stated they want to see a 50/50 split and/or have a board of voting members from each of the Townships so they can decide what the budget should be and where exactly the money is going.

Jonathan Smith, Frazee City Clerk, stated that he wants to see the expenses distributed in the fairest manner and that is why he attended all of the township meetings to talk about an average call and market value scenario. He also stated that it is in the best interest of the City and Fire Department to have two meetings a year, one to discuss budget issues and the other to discuss services provided and future intentions and purchases of the Fire Dept.

After hearing from the Townships and having short conversations back and forth, Ouart made a motion. MOTION by Ouart, seconded by Jopp, to contract Frazee's Fire service with Burlington,

Height of Land, Evergreen, Silver Leaf, and 8.5 sections of Hobart Townships for a period of three (3) years, splitting the budget costs so Frazee is responsible for 40% and the Townships are responsible for 60%, which is to be distributed based on Est. Market Value, hold two meetings a year one to discuss budget issues and the other to discuss service and other issues, and increase the fire call fee from \$750 to \$1000 for structure fires. All present in favor, motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

ATTEST:

Jonathan Smith, City Clerk/Treasurer