

City of Sheboygan
2016-12-21

AGNUXS6BABD9

CITY OF SHEBOYGAN

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2016

Chair Joe Heidemann called the meeting to order at 6: 05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

ALDERPERSONS PRESENT:

Chair Joe Heidemann, Alderpersons: John Belanger, Bryan Bitters, Jim Bohren, Mary Lynne Donohue, Mark Hermann, Scott Lewandoske, Bill Thiel, Todd Wolf, Tammy Rabe (arrived at 6: 07 p.m.)

ALDERPERSONS EXCUSED: Mike Damrow, Roman Draughon, Susan Holzschuh, Job Hou-Seye, Andrew Schneider, Rosemarie Trester

STAFF/OFFICIALS PRESENT: City Administrator Darrell Hofland, Fire Chief Michael Romas, Director of Information Technology David Augustin, Firefighter/Paramedic Brendan Hughes, Firefighter/Paramedic Joel Johnsrud

MINUTES

Motion by Alderperson Wolf, seconded by Alderperson Donohue to approve the minutes from December 12, 2016 meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Sheboygan Fire Department/Firefighter Union comments on future Fire Department alternatives.

Firefighter/Paramedic Brendan (Cal) Hughes spoke on behalf of the Firefighter Union. They met with Chief Romas and reviewed the Chief's FIRE 2020 Plan. The Chief's plan meets their immediate goals which is no more two person stations and get battalion chiefs back on 24 hour shifts. They shared their ideas with the chief that would decrease workload in the front office and increase the workload on the firefighter end. There was good discussion and they like the plan overall and can support it in principal. They would like to work more in the future with some alterations.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMON COUNCIL

R.C. No. 265 - 16 - 17 by Public Protection and Safety. Your Committee to whom was referred Res. No. 129 - 16 - 17 by Alderperson Thiel authorizing the Purchasing Agent to enter into a contract for professional services related to performance of an Operational and Departmental Structure study for the Sheboygan Fire Department. Presentation by Steven Knight from Fitch and Associates.

Steven Knight from Fitch and Associates introduced himself and the firm he represents. He listed his experience and qualifications and the rest of the project team members. The FITCH team will objectively assess and benchmark the performance, structure, functions, and current and optimized station locations with the City limits and/or response areas. With respect to fire/rescue station locations, they will identify implementable opportunities for operational and organizational efficiency, effectiveness, improvement, and long-term sustainability based on modern best practices, community growth, and the unique characteristics of the community. They will identify opportunities for improvement, including considerations for national recommendations such as NFPA 1710. Activities will include a combination of quantitative, qualitative, and GIS analyses. Where applicable, their analysis will compare, contrast and compliment previous studies such as the IAFF geospatial study so that policy can be established in full transparency. The project will be done in two Phases. Phase 1 is estimated to take six months and Phase 2 is estimated at four months. Mr. Knight said the total project could be completed in six months if necessary.

Motion by Alderperson Donohue, seconded by Alderperson Belanger to send to Council with favorable recommendation to authorize the Purchasing Agent to enter into contract with Fitch and Associates for professional services related to performance of an Operational and Departmental Structure study for the Sheboygan Fire Department. Motion carried. 6 - 3 Ayes: Alderpersons Belanger, Bohren, Donohue, Heidemann, Hermann, Wolf

Nays: Alderpersons Bitters, Rabe, Thiel (Ald. Lewandoske left at 6: 55 p.m.)

NEXT MEETING DATE:

ADJOURN

Motion by Alderperson Wolf, seconded by Alderperson Donohue to adjourn at 7: 08 p.m.