

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL/TOWNSHIP/FIRE DEPT MEETING

November 29, 2011

A special council/township meeting was duly called to order by Mayor Robert Roesler at 6:44 p.m. on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at the Sherburn Fire Hall with council members Robert Roesler, Brad Ringnell, Jeff Ross, Kurt Olson and Carroll Behne present. Absent, none. Also present, City Admin/EDA Director Jamie Letzring, Deputy Clerk Irene Schlaphoff, officials from Jay, Elm Creek and Fox Lake townships, and representatives of the Sherburn Fire Department.

The purpose of this special meeting was to discuss the purchase of a farm tanker truck to replace the current tanker used for rural fires. SFD member Val Omvig gave a slide presentation enumerating the reasons why a new truck is needed, including speed at which a structure is engulfed, response times for mutual aid, costly repairs to maintain the current truck, and costs of a used unit versus a new unit. The Fire Department asked that a committee of township and city representatives be formed to explore all options for the purchase of a tanker, including funds available to them, and to present a solution by January 31, 2012.

Mayor Roesler acknowledged that certain townships are being approached by several fire departments, making it difficult to budget, and recognized that the purchase of this piece of equipment will exhaust the budget and delay the purchase of future pieces. SFD member Doug Hartke stated that they are asking the townships to cover 75% of a new purchase, or \$2,480.32/section.

Following discussion regarding mutual aid, future manpower for local departments, the FEMA grant application, and the timelines for purchase of a new tanker, it was agreed that the purchase of a tanker is necessary, but the questions remain: where do we get it and what will it cost.

It was agreed that a committee of representatives from each township will be formed to explore costs and funding, and to lay out a plan for the purchase of a new or used tanker truck. This information will be brought forth by January 31, 2012 in order to enable the townships to approach their annual meetings in March 2012.

Motion to adjourn by Ringnell, second by Olson, carried. Meeting declared adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Irene Schlaphoff, Deputy Clerk