



City of Westworth Village
311 Burton Hill Road • Westworth Village, TX 76114
817.710.2500 • Fax 817.710.2501

FIRE DEPT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**MONDAY
APRIL 29, 2013
4:00 PM**

**MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
311 BURTON HILL ROAD**

**POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS OPEN MEETINGS ACT (TGC Chapter 551)
A QUORUM OF COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE IN ATTENDANCE**

ATTENDEES:	Chair	Kelly Jones
	Member	Nick Encke
	Member	Mike Coleman
	Mayor	Tony Yeager
	Council Member	Steve Beckman
	Fire Chief	John Rodriguez
	City Administrator	Roger Unger
	City Secretary	Carol Ann Borges
	Police Chief	Doug Reim

CALLED TO ORDER at 4:05pm by Chairman Jones.

Approval of Minutes from Fire Dept Oversight Committee Meeting on March 26, 2013.

- **MOTION** made by Mike Coleman. **SECOND** by Nick Encke. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Jones opened the meeting with the statement that he, the Mayor, and the City Administrator had met with the Fort Worth Fire Chief about 10 days ago, to discuss the possibility of Fort Worth provide fire service for the City of Westworth Village. Chairman Jones had notified Fire Chief Rodriguez of the meeting. Chairman Jones stated, while it is his intent to support the Westworth Volunteer Fire Dept, it is the Council's duty to consider any and all viable and fiscally responsible options for providing fire service to the community.

Discuss the Preliminary FY 2013-2014 Fire Dept Budget.

Discuss the future of fire protection for the City of Westworth Village.

Agenda items were discussed jointly:

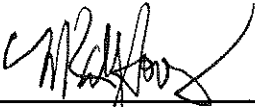
- The focal point of the meeting was how the City will pay for fire services in the future and what other options may be available. Decisions made by the Council today will affect future budgets and services.
- The City's current fire budget is \$170K/year; however, that is expected to increase to \$300K/year in the near future due to mandates and needed upgrades. Fort Worth has four (4) levels of service to outside entities based per capita as recorded by COG census. Current recorded population of Westworth Village is 2470. The IL/AL Complex will increase our population count by +/-300 residents. Fort Worth will re-price services annually. Roger Unger presented the Fort Worth data; however, they will not put a proposal in writing until approved by their Council. Fort Worth estimates they could provide fire services to the City for \$263K/ year, excluding EMS, which is their standard Level 3 Service. Specialized services, such as clean-up of hazardous material spills, etc, are determined on-scene by the Incident Commander. Such services will not be billed to the City, but to the responsible party and/or the responsible party's insurance provider. Chief Rodriguez confirmed that no one department can be proficient in all hazardous material spills and calling a third party is standard practice.
- Budget discussion included truck replacement, radio system mandates, station upgrades, and personnel needs.
 - A city's Insurance Service Office (ISO) Rating is based on many factors, including equipment, personnel, geographical location, climate, wind, and structures served, etc. Mutual Aid does not generally count toward the ISO rating. ISO rates affect a property owner's insurance rate.
 - A department must maintain a minimum "two pumper station" (two non-reserve engines). Each engine has a life expectancy of 20 years. After 20 years the equipment does not count toward the ISO rating. The City needs to replace at least one engine by December 2014. There's generally an eight-month lead time for such an acquisition. A demo engine, at an estimated \$400K, will cost the City \$35K-\$48K annually depending on financing (interest rate and life of note).
 - A new radio system will be needed to meet state mandates by the end of 2015. The system is estimated to cost \$40K/year. It's presumed that the City would partner with White Settlement for a Motorola based system.
 - Currently, the department depends on two paid Firefighter/Paramedics on week day shifts and volunteers for nights and weekends/holidays. A two-man crew is the minimum required to roll-out an engine, and personnel can only enter a structure to save life. A four-man crew is the standard response protocol. Chief Rodriguez expects to continue volunteer recruiting efforts, especially marketing to Tarrant County College (TCC) Fire Academy students. It takes at least one year for a volunteer without previous experience to acquire the skills and certification needed to work a fire. The current trend for both PD and FD trainees is to be sponsored by a hiring entity to pay for their education and training.
 - Mike Lewis is the City's Fire Marshall and Arson Investigator. Fire inspections will increase with the IL/AL Complex and other future commercial and residential development. Funding this position needs to be considered as the City continues to grow.

Chairman Jones ended the meeting with his appreciation to the Committee and Staff. Mr Jones will meet with Chief Rodriguez and Roger Unger to revise the preliminary fire budget and report back to the Committee in May.

Mayor Yeager addressed the Committee and Chief Rodriguez stating his appreciation for the discussion. He is preparing to submit the City's budget to the Finance Committee for review. It will be up to the Council to decide how to proceed.

ADJOURNED at 5:34pm by Chairman Jones.

MINUTES APPROVED on this, the 4th day of June, 2013.



Kelly Jones, Chair

SIGNATURE ATTESTED BY:



Carol Ann Borges, City Secretary

