



Dassel Fire Advisory Board

Minutes

Wednesday, January 29, 2025 at 7:00 pm

1. Call to Order

Minutes:

Meeting was called to order by Chair Josh Johnson at 7:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Minutes:

Members present: Jim Nielsen-City of Kingston; Josh Johnson-City of Darwin; Jeff Atkinson-Darwin Township; Bob Christofferson-Kingston Township; Kari Amundson-Dassel Township. Members absent: Collinwood Township; Ellsworth Township; Marie Thurn-City of Dassel; Renee Eckerly, City Administrator Also present: Dave Johnson, Fire Chief; Firefighters: Eric Dickey, Jaiden Bunn, Andy Kisor, Terry Heidecker, Kevin Carlen, Brian Massingham

3. Secretary's Report - Approve Minutes September 11, 2024

Approval of Minutes

Minutes:

In reading of the draft September 11, 2024, Minutes it was reported that in section 7. Clerk/Treasurer's Report it is written 2023 year-to-date. This should be 2024 year-to-date. Motion made by Atkinson, seconded by Christofferson to approve the September 11, 2024, minutes with noted change. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Agenda

5. Open Forum

6. Fire Chief's Report

Minutes:

Chief Johnson reported there was 392 calls in 2024. There are 19 Volunteer firefighters. There will be 2 new members starting in February 2025, one of which has 13 years of experience. The automatic mutual aid with Cokato is working well. The new extrication tools were purchased in November 2024 for approximately \$50,000 with gambling contributions and Relief association funds. The equipment should arrive in February 2025.

7. Clerk/Treasurer's Report

a. Review 2024 YE Revenues & Expenditures

b. Review & discuss preliminary 2026 budget and contracts

Minutes:

Chief Johnson gave the report in Eckerlys' absences. For the 2026 budget, Johnson proposed a \$8,300 increase over the following line items: added a line for Hose Testing for \$1,000, increased \$500 repair/maint. supply, increased \$500. for pagers/radios, increased \$1,000 professional services, increased \$300 for telephone, and increased \$1,000 for electric utilities. He is also recommending a 4% increase to Fire Relief of \$1,771.49. This will give a total projected 2026 Budget of \$374,770.42. Johnson reported that Truck 553 loan will be paid in full in 2025 and he recommends taking the \$30,000 (which was the payment amount for Truck 553) and continue to allocate it towards the new truck 551 that is on order. Atkinson suggested utilizing line item 500 and labeling it 2027/2028 Truck. Johnson questioned the year to year expenses and if the fire department is over budgeting, specifically in account 361 General Liability Insurance. Johnson will work with Eckerly and have the insurance cost in the next agenda packet.

8. Business Items

9. Next meeting date - _____ 7:00 p.m., Dassel Fire Hall

Minutes:

Next meeting was set for Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall. Add to that agenda the annual Fire Advisory Board elections.

10. Adjourn

Minutes:

Motion by Amundson, seconded by Atkinson to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m.
Motion carried.