

*Village of North Riverside*  
**Police – Fire – License Committee**  
Meeting Date: May 2, 2016

Trustee Mengoni, Chairman  
Trustee Decosola  
Trustee Wilt

Others in attendance were Mayor Hermanek, Trustees Bianco, and Demopoulos, Administrator Belmonte, Finance Director Scarpiniti and Fire Chief Basek.

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm. and the following is a summary of the meeting.

There was a brief discussion on a new policy Chief Basek would like to implement, when the Fire Department responds to a residential call and the resident has no fire detectors we would inform them that if they would like the Fire Department to drop off and install one at no cost. The Chief informed the committee that he received 200 fire detectors through a grant. The committee, board members and the Mayor thought it was a great policy and in favor of the program.

**Item #1: Discussion on New Fire Truck:** Chief Basek gave an overview of what was wrong with 1997 ladder truck that rendered it non-operable in 2013. To repair the vehicle was estimated to cost between \$165,000 to \$175,000 to fix the ladder portion of the vehicle and once the ladder was removed for repairs there was a chance of some additional electrical work which could run as high as \$50,000. The vehicle currently is worth about \$165,000. The committee felt it was not prudent to repair a 19-year old vehicle. The Chief mentioned that without this vehicle we would have to rely on Mutual Aid to get to the roof of the schools, multi-family buildings, Costco and the Mall in case of an emergency.

Chief Basek informed the committee that he has priced out a Pierce “demo” ladder truck in Texas which has most of the equipment he needs and the cost is \$1,115,000 after negotiating a discount from Pierce because of the problem with our current truck. The committee and board members asked a number of questions about other manufactures vehicles and if the Chief knew of any other demo’s available. They asked the Chief of the available of Pierce’s demo and if it was legal to purchase it without going out for an RFP. The Chief said the vehicle would be purchased from the Houston – Galveston Consortium so we would not have to issue an RFP and the vehicle could be here by July. The committee asked Director Scarpiniti about how we could afford the vehicle and she gave the committee three options; purchase it, lease it or lease to own. Her recommendation was to lease to own over 10-years and depending on the interest rate the cost per year would be between \$125,000 and \$175,000. Trustee Wilt said she felt more finical information was needed in order to make a decision. Trustee Mengoni recessed the meeting until 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2016.

The meetings resumed at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2016 in attendance were committee members Trustees Mengoni, Decosola and Wilt along with Trustees Bianco, Czajka, Demopoulos, Administrator Belmonte, Finance Director Scarpiniti and Chief Basek.

Chairman Mengoni opened the meeting stating he had three questions he wanted to start with; first can we afford the vehicle. Director Scarpiniti said she would come to the budget meetings with a list of revenue increases that should be considered along with very conservative increases in other revenue line items. She said the board will have to consider increases to cover the cost of the vehicle, she recommended a 10-year lease to purchase. The second question was asked if the Chief looked into other manufacturers. The Chief said he looked into E1 and Smeal neither had a demo available and pricing is about the same. He also mentioned that

the Village's mechanic and his firefighters are trained in Pierce equipment which makes for an easy transition from one piece of equipment to another. The last question Trustee Mengoni had was what other equipment the Chief has. The Chief said currently he has vehicle #808 a 2000 Pierce pumper which is currently handling all the Mutual Aid calls which the ladder truck usually does. Vehicle # 807 a 2013 Pierce pumper which has all the rescue equipment on it and this vehicle is kept almost exclusively in town because of that reason. The Chief said the 2000 pumper would not have to be replaced until about 2025 if we had the ladder truck because than it would only be used as second line response vehicle. Chief said he has \$4,000 in the budget to be discussed to do some painting on this vehicle. Trustee Mengoni mentioned that this is the Chief's top priority for his department. He also asked the Chief what else he would need for the truck and how much it would cost. The Chief said he would need radios, cabinets, stripping and some hose and estimated it would cost \$20,000 - \$25,000. The Chief also mentioned he would take every piece of equipment off the current vehicle that he could transfer to the new truck.

Trustee Bianco asked Director Scarpiniti what could be increased to cover the payments for the new vehicle, she said she will have that information ready for the budget meetings but she did mention things like places for eating tax, amusement tax, administrative tow, permits and vehicle stickers. Trustee Czajka said she was concern about the financing but understood the health safety issue. Trustee Demopoulos asked the Chief what manufacturer he preferred, the Chief said although we had a problem with the ladder truck Pierce is still the biggest manufacturer of fire vehicles and we have always had good luck with Pierce. When all questions were asked and answered Trustee Wilt motioned seconded by Trustee Decosola to have the Village enter into an agreement through the Houston – Galveston Consortium to purchase the Pierce Demo Ladder Truck by leasing to purchase with either Pierce or another financial institution as recommended by the Finance Director. The vote passed 3-0 through committee. Trustee Mengoni polled the other members Trustee Bianco did not comment, Trustee Czajka and Demopoulos agreed though Trustee Czajka still had financial concerns and the Mayor agreed.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trustee Joe Mengoni, Chairman