

City of Watseka
201 Brianna Dr
PO Box 338
Watseska, IL. 60970

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 9, 2021
7:00 PM

PRESENT: Aldermen Rushbrook, Marcier, Cahoe, Barragree, Yates, Miller, Garfield, Alderwoman Ulfers and Mayor Allhands

GUESTS: Fire Chief Tim Ketchum, Police Chief Jeremy Douglas

Alderwoman Ulfers opened the meeting at 7:00 pm, there was no public comment. Auxiliary Officer Mark Garfield stated his department went over Lexi Pol updates with Officer Muench.

Fire Chief Tim Ketchum stated his department had 3 fire/smoke in building, 2 line/odor investigation, 3 traffic accidents, 1 EMS assist and 3 mutual aid calls to Martinton, Aroma Park and Woodland for the month of February. February training consisted of extinguisher training, CPR refresher, ice rescue suits and ice rescue practical's. The department had no details for the month of February. Chief Ketchum stated he has been working on the AFG grant for \$217,000 to purchase SCBA's. The cost share for this grant is 5% or \$10,850.00. The small equipment grant that he has been working on is for \$25,428 for portable radio purchase and there is no cost share on this grant. Chief Ketchum gave the committee a breakdown of the calls for the last year and he stated the total calls were 153 with 126 in the district and 27 mutual aid calls. Chief stated there has been a gradual increase over the last 5 years. Alderman Garfield asked about equipment and chief stated the rescue truck is back, the aerial truck needs new tires and 2 tires on the rescue truck need to be replaced.

Chief Ketchum stated it has come to his attention that the City gets a foreign fire tax check every year from the Illinois Municipal League. The City needs to change the process to follow state statue. The money comes from insurance companies outside of Illinois that have to pay 2% of the premiums to this foreign fire tax fund. When the check is received it goes to a line item in the general fund. The Fire department needs to create a foreign fire board with 7 members of the fire department. Then when the money is received it will go to the board and the members of the fire department can give a request to the board with a list of items they would like to purchase with these monies. Chief Ketchum has been working on this with Attorney Cainkar. There will be more information to come at next month's meeting.

Police Chief Jeremy Douglas spoke next. He stated his department had 299 calls for service in February. Chief stated the new Tahoe has been delayed because of specialty parts and the new Explorer should be here by the end of April.

Chief stated he has a list of the new laws that he is currently reviewing.

Officer Hall, Muench, and Marcott have been taking an on line class and Officer Ward and Bossong have been taking an advanced DUI enforcement class. Detective King has been taking a class on ring camera systems. In this class he is learning about sending out alerts to

neighbors who have the ring cameras in order to help with police details.
Chief Douglas stated Sheldon came to municipal court in February with 1 case.

Alderwoman Ulfers makes a motion to adjourn at 7:15 and Alderman Garfield seconded. Roll call carried 9-0.

Monna Ulfers, Chairman