Safety Committee Meeting 6.5.23

Lauren Ingebritson called a Safety Committee Meeting
Monday June 5, 2023 at 6:00 pm

Attendees: Mayor Tepe, Committee members; Lauren Ingebritson, Regina Sharp, Jeff LeMay and Village Administrator/Chief of Police Jerry Hayhow, Chief Fiscal Office and Clerk of Council Katie Lyons, Chief John Maggard, Chief Steve Dronsfield, John Gatch, Jeff Carle, Mickey List, Sue Maggard, Mike Kaplan

Meeting called to order 6:03 pm

Safety Committee Chair Lauren Ingebritson to discuss the financial planning of a newish ambulance and avoid a tax increase.

Ms. Ingebritson stated the concerns:

- The current ambulance has 37,000 miles and is 20 years old.
- The plan is to purchase a new truck and put the updated box on it.
    - A new ambulance will provide significant improvement in patient comfort.

The current quote for the project is approximately $240,000 which is a significant savings over a new ambulance. When Chief Maggard was asked the amount of a new ambulance, he responded that he didn't have a price.

Ms. Ingebritson explained that we are here to discuss how to finance this project, which is 10% of our budget and would put us significantly over budget, considering the 2024 Budget is already completed.

- Mr. LeMay questioned the current annual amount to maintain the ambulance. Chief Hayhow explained that we spent less than $2000 a year in maintenance.
- Mr. Tepe explained that the budget for 2024 is already completed, and that this isn't an emergency right now so we need to come up with a timeline for financing the ambulance. The question is not if, it is when.

Ms. Ingebritson asked if the funds from the association can be used towards the purchase and how much money was in that fund? Mr. Gatch said he wasn't comfortable sharing that information. Mr. LeMay asked why the fund is not transparent, to which Mr. Gatch did not reply.

Ms. Ingebritson stated there were a lot of unanswered questions:

- What is the availability, turnaround time and cost on a new ambulance?
- What is the cost to rent an ambulance while the current ambulance is being built?
- What is the cost of a new ambulance vs. taking the old box and putting it on a new truck?
- How much is the Association able to contribute?
- Are there grants available for a new purchase of an ambulance?

The following next steps and timing:

- Chief Maggard will obtain more two more bids for the ambulance based upon the needs of the village along with the payment options, how much is funded upfront, etc.

- John Gatch and Jeff Carle will send an email to Association members, EMS and Fire, explaining the reason for requesting use of $20k in donated funds toward the ambulance remount. Jeff will ask members to respond with a vote within one week.
- Mr. LeMay explained that we planned to use $100,000 of the ARPA Funds towards the Elm St. water line if we get the $400,000 grant. Chief Hayhow will check remaining ARPA funds balance and whether the use toward an ambulance purchase is within the guidelines. If so, this could be used to buy a chassis now, before ARPA expires at the end of 2023.
- Chief Hayhow will check what was budgeted for EMS new recruit training classes 2020-2023 versus what was spent, and the amount of saved funds from the switch to Great Oaks that is still set aside.
- Mr. LeMay and Chief Hayhow to identify other funds in 2024, 2025, and possibly 2026, and determine a tentative timeline for the ambulance project.

- Mayor Tepe suggested doing a village wide fundraiser towards the new ambulance.
- Mr. LeMay explained that we still have the Bond on the EMS Building so we do not want to take out another Bond. We have the potential to add to our 2025 Operating Levy, but reminded everyone that, that money wouldn't come through until 2026.

Ms. Ingebritson concluded with the following information to be reported back to her:

- Mr. LeMay and Chief Hayhow will look into finances.
- Mr. Maggard will into the multiple estimates and availability.
- Mr. Gatch will look into the by-laws of the Association to see if Association funds can be put towards the new ambulance.

Meeting adjourned at 7:19PM