

Village Board Fire Public Safety Committee
~ Regular Meeting ~
MINUTES

~ Thursday, March 9, 2023 ~

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Guzzo called the meeting to order at 1630 hours.

PRESENT

Mayor Gunter, Clerk Szymski, Village Manager May, Assistant Village Manager Parker, Trustee Barker, Trustee Brady, Trustee Guzzo, Trustee Liddle, Trustee Nero and Trustee Simonovich.

ALSO PRESENT

Fire Chief Riley, D/C O'Hare, D/C Fitzgerald, Captain Lynn, Dralle, Human Resources Director Brainerd, Finance Director Jamie Cunningham, Public Works Director Amy Ries, Police Chief Gunther, Administrative Assistant Moore, Administrative Assistant Saldivar, and Communications Specialist Babyar

ABSENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public comment

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 1, 2022, PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Trustee Liddle made a motion, seconded by Trustee Barker, to approve December 1, 2022, Public Safety Committee Minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- Service Awards :
 - Chief Riley, D/C O'Hare, and Captain Lynn Dralle recognized Fire Department personnel for their excellent service. In addition, several awards were presented, including Team Commendation Award, Life Saving Award, and the Firefighter of the Year Award.
 - Team Commendation Awards
 - November 15, 2022, at Hilton in Westmont -
 - Presented to Joe Kielczynski and Jose Ramos, Ryan Sulzen, Burton Chaet, Cody Whelton, and Darren Files.
 - March 23, 2022, at 56 West Pier Drive -
 - Andrew Busche, Katie Jansen, Ed Gergits, Corey Olson, Steve Riley, and Rich Zasada rescued a victim from the fire during the

incident. Unfortunately, the victim expired a few days later from his injuries.

- August 8, 2022, EMS -
 - Arnold Nolan, Andrew Busche, Josh Maly, Eric Rasmussen, and Cody Whelton for Emergency Medical Services received Team Commendation Awards regarding a call where a resident had trouble breathing. Upon arrival, the crew quickly administered specific medications that saved this individual's life.
- Firefighter of the Year 2022 :
 - Battalion Chief Joseph Kielczynski has been with the Westmont Fire Department since 1994, serving first as a Firefighter, then as Lieutenant, then Captain, and now as Battalion Chief.
 - Battalion Chief Joseph Kielczynski gave the audience an emotional and impactful thank-you speech. Thanking the Fire Department and his family in attendance for support in the fire service.
- SB 1306 - EMS Body Worn Cameras :
 - Chief Riley discussed an emerging bill that would affect the Fire Service significantly. If passed, it can go into effect in January 2024/ 2025. An un-funded bill that requires all EMS personnel to be equipped by their employers with body cameras during service calls and all ambulances, SEMSVs, and medical carriers to be fitted by their owners with dashboard cameras that record the operation of those vehicles by EMS personnel during service calls. More information on the bill's progress is on the Illinois General [Assembly website](#).
- 2022 Annual Report :
 - D/C O'Hare presented a slide show of events and information regarding 2022. Click [here](#) to view the entire presentation.
 - Questions during the presentation:
 - Trustee Baker inquired about ambulance billing, whether most of the charges were paid through insurance, and how much was out of pocket.
 - Captain Lynn Dralle responded that most of the payment is made through medicare, Medicaid, or insurance and writes off the remaining balance. Therefore, the amount in the slide show reflects the correct amount of \$1,424,032.00.
 - Trustee Baker inquired about the transmission of Ebola.
 - Captain Lynn Dralle responded that it is transmitted through droplets or touch and is very contagious and deadly.
- Director Lynn Dralle Retirement - Last Public Safety Meeting :
 - Mayor Gunter, Chief Riley, and D/C O'Hare all gave notable accolades for the fantastic work and dedication Captain Dralle provided over the 26 years of her career to the Westmont community and the department.
 - D/C O'Hare mentioned her walk-out would be on June 2, 2023. A formal invitation communication will be sent in the next couple of weeks.

MISCELLANEOUS

None mentioned:

There being no other business to discuss, Trustee Guzzo motioned to adjourn, to which Trustee Liddle seconded. The meeting subsequently adjourned at 1739 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
La Trecia Moore
Recording Secretary