

**Minutes of the Sparta Fire Board Meeting  
February 18, 2021  
In person & Zoom Meeting**

**Present:** Bergman (twp-chair), Anderson (twp), Cumings (village), Goodfellow (twp), Bill Taylor (village) & Betty Van Patten (village)

Also, present: Chief Olney, Deputy Chief Carl Wood

Absent: None

Bergman called the meeting to order @7:00 pm.

**Additions to Agenda:** none

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Motion: Made by Anderson** to approve the agenda.

**Seconded: Cumings**

**Motion Passed: 6-0**

**Public Comment: None**

**Approval of the Minutes:**

**Motion: Made VanPatten** to approve the January 21, 2021 minutes.

**Seconded: Taylor**

**Motion Passed: 6-0**

**Approval of the bills:**

**Motion: Made by Cumings** to approve January – February 16, 2021 bills.

**Seconded: VanPatten**

**Motion Passed: 6-0**

**Finance Board Update:**

Anderson stated that the finance board meet twice since the last board meeting and approved all department invoices and reviewed the budget changes approved by the fire board at their last meeting. The finance committee reviewed COVID grant funding request and are waiting for Kent County to approve and release the funds. Bergman stated that he has been in contact with Kent County as to status of the grant approvals and they stated they have over 385 applications to review and it would mid-April before the funds could be approved. Chief Olney stated he will be contacting our audit company to review how to account for the funds not received and expenditures that have already been make. It's appears there will be some sort of accrual process once the funds are received. Chief Olney stated that he would send to the board members the results of the auditor's response.

**Old Business:**

**Engine #3:** The new engine #3 is in service. The department had 2 days of manufacture training, which Chief Olney stated was very good . The new engine #3 has been on 2 calls already.

**FEMA Grant:** Olney stated that getting access to DONS had to be corrected and updated. The Grant was submitted on time. It will mid-April before any awards of the grant is made.

The Chief stated he's looking into another Grant from Fire House Subs and would have more information at the next meeting. The grant would be for "Body Armor".

**Excess Equipment:** Chief Olney stated that he's working with the Village to have items included on Miedema Auctions in the Spring. Miedema would come out and take pictures and log items for sale under a Municipality Auction. The Chief stated he's trying to sell the old pumper truck ahead of time and will be advertising in fire department web sites and papers.

**Chief's Report:** Chief Olney presented the Chief's report. (see attached). There were 73 calls YTD. The Chief stated there were 3 fires in the past month and were 2 fire assist and 5 accidents in the last month. (2) of the fire alarm dispatches were at TESA. Olney stated their in-house fire detection system along with alarms worked well. Cause for fire/smoke appears to be an electric motor. Chief stated one fire assist to Apline was a fruit farm shop and storage. With aerial truck the fire put out in quick fashion.

The Chief stated that 3 new fire fighters have passed their medical requirement testing. The Chief also stated that the fire department will be interviewing (4) internal candidates for a position of Lieutenant on the Department.

Bill Taylor asked the Chief if there were any business/buildings in the village that hadn't provided access to fire department for safety check on fire systems and procedures. Chief Olney stated that all business owners have been very accommodating to the fire department. The Chief stated that in his inspections he's seen no evidence of any hazardous materials being miss handled.

**Next Meeting Date:** March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the fire station.

**Next Finance Meeting Dates:** March 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM at the fire station.

**Public Comment:** none

**Adjournment:**

**Motion: Made by Cumings** to adjourn at 7:32 PM.

**Seconded: Van Patten**

**Motion Passed: 6-0**

Minutes by Goodfellow 2-20-21