

**NMFR Joint Finance & Personnel Committee**  
**10-24-23 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Room #132 – City of Menasha**

Present: Ald. Lewis, Sevenich, Grade and Borchardt

Excused: Ald. Stevenson and Boyette

Also Present: DC Krueger, Director Sassman and MA Ellis

Public: No members of the public were present.

Ald. Sevenich called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes: The Committee reviewed the September 26, 2023, meeting minutes. **MSC Grade/Borchardt to approve the September 26, 2023 meeting minutes, all voting aye.**

Review of Calls: The Committee reviewed the September 2023 compared to September 2022 calls. **MSC Grade/Borchardt to approve the September 2023 and September 2022 comparison, and place on file, all voting aye.**

2023 Budget Reviews: The Committee reviewed the year-to-date 2023 budget report. DC Krueger reviewed the overtime budget. There was one long term FMLA who was able to come back earlier than anticipated. There were other shorter FMLA's. So far, we are tracking ok with this budget.

Consideration and Action of the 2024 Budget: The Committee reviewed the 2024 budget. DC Krueger noted they did meet with both Mayors, and they did make some cuts to the overtime budget. There was also a reduction in the health insurance line item and salary and fringes due to retirements. Ald. Sevenich asked if there is a deductible for the insurance plans and if the City pays for these deductibles. MA Ellis said there is one and the employee does receive some HRA benefit but it doesn't cover the entire deductible. He asked how the HRA is funded, with a third-party administrator or with the City, and it was noted that we didn't know how it was funded.

Ald. Sevenich asked about the purchase of the heavy rescue that is in the budget and asked if this is an ambulance. DC Krueger said it is not an ambulance. It's a specific vehicle that carries equipment for different rescues and it cannot transport patients. He also said they will not make a final decision on this vehicle until they find out what the County will purchase for a replacement boat. At this time, the County has to replace the Husky Airboat and we must make sure it will fit into the station with the tow vehicle. DC Krueger said we continue to be challenged with product ownership of vehicles and the repairs. He has had conversations with Menasha's Street department to see if they can help us with repairs to help reduce labor costs with outside vendors. It would also give our mechanics the ability to possibly fix things there as they have the hoist that will hold the weight of our trucks. Ald. Sevenich asked about the hoist in our budget. DC Krueger said it's similar to what Menasha Garage is using. **MSC Grade/Lewis recommends the City of Menasha Common Council approves Neenah-Menasha's 2024 Operating and CIP budget with the deductions presented by both Mayors that results in a total reduction of \$111,250 to the overall 2024 operating budget, all voting aye.**

**MSC Borchardt/Sevenich the City of Neenah Common Council approves Neenah-Menasha's 2024 Operating and CIP budget with the deductions presented by both Mayors that results in a total reduction of \$111,250 to the overall 2024 operating budget, all voting aye.**

Report

Consideration and Action of Engine 32 Repair: The Committee reviewed the memo from DC Krueger regarding the replacement of Engine 32's transmission. It was noted over the past couple of years we have spent quite a bit of money on this truck. The replacement for this truck has been ordered but we will not have the replacement until 2025. We are looking at moving Engine 32 to a different station that doesn't have as many calls to help reduce the wear and tear on this until the replacement engine comes in 2025. He also noted Engine 31's replacement is ready, and he will be completing a final inspection on it tomorrow before we take delivery.

Ald. Borchardt asked if there are calls that we can run differently and not have the engine respond to all the calls. DC Krueger said the situation we find ourselves in is that we run at minimum staffing. If you put them in a different vehicle, we have a significant delay for service if another call comes in that requires equipment from that truck. He noted we don't want vehicles with one person in a vehicle responding to EMS calls by themselves. He also said our most expensive truck, Quint 32, doesn't go on as many calls to reduce the wear and tear on that vehicle. He also noted that next year we will start a coating on each vehicle to help stop the corrosion on the vehicle and the electrical parts that are exposed to the salt brine from the streets. Ald. Sevenich said there is a special tank wash system at City Garage that we should investigate for washing our truck.

**MSC Borchardt/Lewis to adjourn at 6:00 p.m., all voting aye.**

Respectfully Submitted,

*Tara A. Ellis*

Tara Ellis

Management Assistant