

Amberley Village Council
Police-Fire Committee – Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2018

In attendance: Peg Conway (chair), Natalie Wolf (committee member), Rich Bardach (committee member), Tom Muething, Ed Hattenbach, Scot Lahrmer, Officer Mark Roeseler, Lt. Brian Blum, Bill Doering

Prior Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of December 7, 2017, were accepted as submitted.

911 Updates

Lt Blum reported that the department is evaluating the 911 operation in light of several external factors and changes that have been mentioned to the committee previously. The state will be mandating more staffing requirements. Cincinnati Bell will no longer support the call system which would necessitate purchase of new equipment for which estimates ranging from \$70,000 to \$165,000 have been received. Further, it's not clear if the other 911 centers in Norwood, Cincinnati and Hamilton County will all be on the same system going forward, which would complicate matters. Lt. Blum noted that 95% of the 911 calls received in Amberley are for needs outside the village and that most of the Amberley 911 calls are for medical assistance which they then just forward to Hamilton County, which now dispatches for Deer Park-Silverton and Golf Manor.

The committee asked several questions to clarify the impact of ceasing to be a 911 call center. Lt. Blum stated that the dispatch operation would continue to be 24-hour/full time and would have a dedicated 911 line to receive calls via the county system for service required in the village. Residents would continue to call 911 in emergencies as usual. Not handling all the calls for other areas would allow our dispatchers to be more available to support Amberley officers on the road. The committee also noted the importance of explaining this situation clearly to village residents. Scot Lahrmer stated that ceasing to be a 911 call center would result in a net revenue loss to the village of about \$10,000 per year.

No decision has been made at this time. The committee will be kept informed.

ISO Rating

The Insurance Service Office is an organization that rates fire services based on statistical risk, resulting in a score of 1-9, with 1 being the best. Lt. Blum reported that Amberley's fire department recently received a rating of 2, up from 4 in 2011.

AVA Update

Officer Roeseler reported that the Amberley Village Alarm program is up and running in three residences. Dispatchers are being trained on the system. The formal roll out to the village will begin next week.

General Updates

Lt Blum reported on several items that have been in progress: The fourth full-time dispatcher has been hired. Ben Spears was previously part-time and also worked at Hamilton County. The police conference room is now in process of being converted to a squad room with a table for eating and work stations with computers. New uniform shirts are in and will start to be used. The department continues to work with the Ohio Collaborative on policies and procedures. It was suggested to make that information public once final so that residents can be aware of how the department operates.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.