

VILLAGE OF OCONOMOWOC LAKE

35328 West Pabst Road, Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Phone: (262) 567-5301 Web: www.oconlake.com
Fax: (262) 567-7447 e-mail: villagehall@oconlake.com

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE BOARDS OF OCONOMOWOC LAKE AND SUMMIT AND THE SUMMIT FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSION, held on Thursday, May 12, 2011, Unofficial until approved by the Village Board. Approved as written (X) or with corrections () on June 20, 2011.

A special meeting of the Boards of Trustees of the Village of Oconomowoc Lake and the Village of Summit and the Summit Fire District Commission was held on May 12, 2011, commencing at 7 p.m., at the Village Hall, 35328 W. Pabst Road, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. Legal requirements for notification as required by law have been met. Roll was taken with the following in attendance:

VILLAGE OF OCONOMOWOC LAKE TRUSTEES	VILLAGE OF SUMMIT TRUSTEES	SUMMIT FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS
Joseph L. Birbaum, President	Jack Riley, President	Matt Dinnauer
Michael Bickler	Kraig Arenz	Kathy Wentland
David Falstad	Jim Breen	Don Wiemer
Joe Owens	Scott Piefer	
Chris Shult	Dave Zimmermann	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Milt Wegner, Summit Fire Chief, Henry Elling (Village of Summit Administrator), Cindy J. Schlieve (Clerk-Treasurer, Village of Oconomowoc Lake)

DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING OPTIONS FOR THE FIRE SERVICE

Mr. Birbaum reported that a meeting between representatives of the Villages of Oconomowoc Lake and Summit, the Summit Fire District, and the City of Oconomowoc had been held on April 5, 2011. The intended purpose for the meeting was to discuss possible plans for a merger of the Oconomowoc and Summit Fire Departments; however, the City of Oconomowoc Mayor stated that they were not interested in a merger. They presented details of a contract they proposed between the City of Oconomowoc and the Summit Fire District. Mr. Birbaum provided those present with documents detailing the City's proposed contract.

Mr. Wiemer noted that he had spoken with a former Village of Oconomowoc Lake trustee who recalled that one of the reasons the Summit Fire District was formed was to eliminate contracting with the City for fire service to control costs.

Several areas of concern to the Trustees and Commissioners are noted below.

- The cost of contracting with the City
- Contract set-up
- No input into the budgeting process
- Recognition for the equipment Summit Fire District currently owns

Mr. Arenz noted that there were two other departments, the Lake Country Fire Department and the Dousman Fire Department, that have expressed an interest in discussing a merger with the Summit Fire District. The Trustees and Commissioners all agreed that they were not in favor of entering into a contract with the City. They would like to look into the possibility of merging with either of the departments previously mentioned. Mr. Riley suggested that they prepare a set of objectives to use in the discussions for a merged fire department. A small group comprised of one Trustee each from the Villages of Oconomowoc Lake and Summit, and the Summit Fire District Commissioners could then review the matter and refine the objectives before approaching other fire departments to discuss merging.

The initial objectives are as follows:

1. Use the funding formula previously proposed, including the fire station that is now shared with the City of Oconomowoc Fire Department.
2. A merged department should include details regarding ownership, input, and representation for that department.
3. The service level should include, but not be limited to, paramedic service, ambulance service, full-time staff.
4. Decide if the Villages want one fire district or two within each Village. Currently both Villages have two fire districts in each municipality (Summit is covered by Dousman Fire Department and Summit Fire Department; Oconomowoc Lake is covered by Okauchee Fire Department and Summit Fire Department; Oconomowoc Ambulance service covers both municipalities).
5. Create a coverage map; response time should be equal to or better than the current response times.
6. Review the pay scale.
7. Discussions should include looking at the equipment and current assets being brought to the table. A merged department should give credit for existing equipment initially; when new equipment is purchased by that merged department, the equipment would then be owned jointly.
8. Determine the time commitment owed to the merger. For example, Lake Country Fire Department's current contract states that there is a seven (7) year minimum before any withdrawal from the merged department.
9. Determine who can get the merger done the quickest. The goal is to have it done in 2012.
10. Determine the cost savings.

Mr. Dinnauer noted that Summit Fire Department's tanker is currently housed at the Oconomowoc Fire Department at their Second Street station. The City has promised to take care of the maintenance of the vehicle and to use the tanker to respond to any fire that occurs in the Villages of Oconomowoc Lake or Summit when needed. Should that tanker be left at the City or removed?

The small group created to study the matter will include Chris Shult, representing the Village of Oconomowoc Lake, and Kraig Arenz, representing the Village of Summit, along with the Summit Fire District Commissioners. The small group will meet on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 6:30 a.m. to review the objectives and finalize the list. They will report back to the Village Trustees and Commissioners at a meeting on June 14, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion (Shult/Bickler) was made to adjourn at approximately 8:40 p.m., and Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved and ordered posted by:

Cindy J. Schlieve, Clerk-Treasurer

Joseph L. Birbaum, Village President