



## CITY OF AUBURN HILLS

City Council Workshop

Minutes

February 11, 2019

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor McDaniel at 5:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Admin Conference Room, 1827 N. Squirrel Road, Auburn Hills, MI 48326  
Present: Mayor McDaniel, Council Members Burmeister, Hammond, Kittle, Knight, Moniz, Verbeke

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Tanghe, Assistant City Manager Grice, City Attorney Beckerleg, City Clerk Pierce, Fire Chief Taylor, Assistant Fire Chief Macias, Police Chief Baker, DPW Director Melchert, Deputy DPW Director Stahly, Media Communications Specialist Mathes, Graphic Designer Lawrence

Chief Taylor presented an update on the Fire Department. She discussed the number of personnel. She noted that current personnel are dedicated, motivated and very involved in the Community. She explained that the current issue is in retaining and attracting personnel due to the loss of pension and health plans and lack of promotional opportunities. In an effort to improve retention, she explained that the department is in the process of developing a strategic plan, encouraging educational and professional growth, and acknowledging staffs value and input. She noted that she is recommending an additional rank be added to the structure for promotional opportunities and future succession planning.

Chief Taylor noted that the areas of fleet, suppression equipment and facilities need to be addressed. She explained her recommendation to replace the two ladder trucks with one ladder truck and add one engine and to add a shift command vehicle for a dedicated incident command post. In addition she recommended tablets be purchased for each ambulance for medical reporting, update the state interoperability radio equipment; and update the station alert toning equipment. She also noted that station renovations are needed to make them more appropriate for 24-hour shifts.

Chief Taylor presented slides explaining the types of calls, response by property use, and incident type by station. She noted that the number of incidents increased 3.17% over last year. She also explained the total medical service fees billed and collected over the past three years.

Chief Taylor reviewed the EMS average response time, CPR survival rates, type of fire incidents, number of fire mutual aid responses, and number of concurrent incidents.

She explained that the NFPA establishes acceptable staffing criteria for fire incidents. 15 personnel are required to be on scene, unless the aerial device and supply pump are in operation in which case 17 personnel are required. She expressed concern meeting these standards within the response timeframe based on the current staffing level and response from neighboring communities. She explained her recommendation to establish a command post at all emergency scenes for the overall coordination and direction of units.

Chief Taylor recommended a staff position to oversee all the department training to ensure the training is consistent over the three shifts and compliant with Federal and State regulations and County protocols. She also recommended increasing the job required training opportunities and implementing consistent incident command training and communications.

She discussed the Fire Prevention Division and recommended upgrades to the existing computers/tablets for field and desk work. She discussed the fire safety inspection program and cleaning up the occupancy data. She also discussed the existing technology, station connectivity and recommended software integration or procurement of new software.

Chief Taylor discussed the budget, general fund and potential grants.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

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**Kevin R. McDaniel, Mayor**

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**Laura M. Pierce, City Clerk**