

Decorah City Council-Public Safety Committee Minutes
Monday February 21, 2022
5:00 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers
Chair Neal, Zittergruen, Olson, Hadley

Joint meeting with public safety committee and the 28E rural Fire association Board of Trustees

Chair Neal called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Fire Chief Mike Ashbacher gave the quarterly report for the Decorah Volunteer Fire Department. Ashbacher reported that they are currently at 31 volunteer members with 4 being on probation. The department has been working with the 4 on probation on their training.

The Chief reported that the Gala held in February went very well. The department raised \$58,000.00 after expenses. The plan is to start purchasing equipment that can help stabilize cars or buildings in rescue situations. This also helps with rescue operations in a trench situation.

Ashbacher also reported on the large fire that happened in Waukon Iowa. The City of Waukon is very appreciative of the help and figured without the assistance of Decorah and the other fire departments, they would have lost the whole block of buildings. The aerial truck ran very well and pumped out a large amount of water.

City Manager, Travis Goedken, gave an update on the fire station and the potential of building. He reported that after the study it was determined that the current location has the highest potential for the build. With this being determined it was decided that the City would need to look at including administration, park and rec, and potentially the city engineer and assistant engineer into the building plan. After receiving a few conceptions from the architects it was determined that the price would be around \$15,000,000.00 to build a new building on the existing space that would house the fire department and also administrative offices for the city. The Committee discussed that they would like more information and more options for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.