

**GRAND LEDGE AREA EMERGENCY SERVICES AUTHORITY
MEETING
HELD DECEMBER 16, 2024
6:00 p.m.
HELD AT 500 N. CLINTON STREET, GRAND LEDGE, MICHIGAN
48837**

- 1.Roll Call: Present: Chairman Willems, Secretary Lantz, Treasurer Schultz, Vice Chairman Mulder, Trustee Stahelin, Chief Roman and Members of the Department and Ms. Haddix.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was given.
- 3.Audience Participation: There was none.
- 4.Approval of Consent Agenda: Motion was made by Mr. Mulder and supported by Mr. Stahelin to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion Carried.
- 5.Approval of Regular Agenda: Motion to approve the Regular Agenda was made by Mr. Stahelin and supported by Mr. Mulder. Motion Carried.
- 6.Committee and Board Reports:

Chairman moved to item B. Truck/Equipment Replacement Committee – Tanker. Chief Roman discussed the purchase of a new tanker. It takes three years to have one built and the cost is approximately 1.4 million. He said they have a committee looking into specs and costs. They are also looking into state and federal grants. He noted that the current tanker is a 2001. Mr. Stahelin asked if they sell almost new tankers. The Chief said that was not the best idea usually if someone is selling one that is not very old it is because they have had problems with it. Chairman Willems asked why we are not going to Spartan Motors for the purchase of a new tanker. Chief explained that they build chassis and then the vehicle has to go to other places to complete the building of the vehicle.

Chairman moved to item C. Public Education: The Chief explained that he had been teaching at the bus garage for the Drivers on how to use the trauma kits. The kits are now on the busses. He has also taught at Willow Ridge School and the County. The Grant has been received and kits are

now being distributed to all the classrooms and many other places.

Chairman moved to Building Committee item E. Chairman Willems said that the bond would not only be for the new station but the repair of the existing station. He noted there was no decision made at the last meeting and that he and the Chief had met with Landon from Veridus Services and Rob from Christman Builders. Chief had provided the Board Members with information from Veridus and Christman both are willing to work at risk. If the millage does not pass there will be no cost. Chief Roman is leaning towards Veridus because they would do everything from reviewing invoices to meeting with contractors and putting out bids. He has spoken with two other fire chiefs who used Veridus and were very satisfied. One had started with a Construction Manager and ended up firing him and going with Veridus. The other fire chiefs said Veridus kept everything straight, helped them know where to go and protected the Departments interest. There was discussion on Christman Construction and if they could provide the same thing. They would be a construction manager whereas Veridus would be an Owners Representative. The cost difference between Christman and Veridus was discussed. The Chief said he thought he could get the Veridus cost removed. Chief said Veridus said the C2ae plans were enough to proceed with.

Mr. Lantz said he was not ready to go to Veridus, he felt there was not enough information and that there should be more than one company to compare to. Mrs. Schultz said she felt that this was the way to go. We need direction, we are not able to do this alone. Veridus would get bids for us. Mr. Lantz felt that a construction manager was the way for us to go. Veridus was for larger projects and was more costly. Chairman Willems felt that we would get the project off the ground quicker with Veridus. And they do smaller projects like ours. Mr. Stahelin said he could see both sides

Chief Roman said he felt that Veridus was what he needed. He was the most comfortable with them. He was cautious

but ready to make a move. Chairman Willems said that we asked the Chief to research this and we need to be supportive to him he has done what we asked. But he cautioned the Board that he wanted a unanimous vote on this matter.

Mr. Mulder discussed cost for Veridus and did not see when or how to pay them in the paper work provided. He liked having someone to handle this but was concerned about the costs for the updating and repair of the current building which have not been discussed. Chairman Willems asked if there should be a vote at this time. Mrs. Schultz, Mr. Stahelin, Mr. Mulder and Chairman Willems said yes. Mr. Lantz said no.

At this time Mr. Mulder made a motion to enter into a contract with Veridus to move the project forward. Mrs. Schultz supported the Motion. Discussion: Mr. Lantz said he was not ready and we only have a bid from one Owners Representative and we need more to choose from. Chairman Willems suggested a postponement of the Motion, Roll call Vote: Aye: Mulder, Lantz, Willems. Nay: Schultz, and Stahelin. Due to the By- laws the motion failed. Motion to hire Veridus failed on the Roll Call Vote: Stahelin, Schultz. Nay: Mulder, Lantz and Willems.

7. Fire Chief and Staff Reports:

A. Monthly Run Activity: Fire Total 94, City 68, Oneida 14, Mutual Aid 12. EMS Total 191, City 137, Oneida 20, Roxand 6, Mutual Aid 28.

Chief reported on fires and accidents for the month and how well the Department was responding, and how proud of them he is. He also reported on the Christmas Parade and Thanksgiving activities. He updated the Board on the grant and the distribution of the Roman Kits in the Schools and other places.

8. Old Business: Chief updated the Board on the renewal of insurances for the coming year. He also

noted that PHP would end next year and new insurance to take its place is very expensive.

9. New Business: Bills to be paid for November 1 to November 30, 2024. Motion to approve payment of the Bills was made by Mr. Lantz and supported by Mr. Stahelin. Motion Carried.

10. Audience Participation: There was none.

11: Communications from the Board. Chairman Willems wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

12.Closed Session: There was none.

13.Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lantz and supported by Mr. Stahelin at 7:55 p.m. Motion Carried. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jan Schultz.

APPROVED:

Mr. Don Willems, Chairman
Secretary

Mr. Rick Lantz,