

Villages of Walworth and Fontana
Ad Hoc Joint Services Committee Meeting
August 18, 2008
5:00 P.M.

Chair Matt Long called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Present: Nordmeyer, O'Connell, Simonson, Spadoni, Long. Also present Fontana Administrator Hayden, Fontana Fire Chief Jon Kemmett, Regional News Reporter Rob Ireland, Walworth Fire Chief Andy Long, Town of Walworth Chair Joe Abell, Fontana Trustee Pat Kenny.

O'Connell/Long motion to approve 6/17 minutes carried by ayes without negative vote.

Long wasn't at the last Walworth board meeting, but apparently we weren't doing a good enough communication job. Issues were raised at that meeting regarding Walworth and Fontana moving forward on the joint municipal court. Long asked Simonson to give a summary here. The concern was focused primarily on a low benefit to Walworth with the joining of the courts. The fear is why we were doing courts first in case nothing else followed. Why not something bigger, like Fire/Rescue. Courts were chosen because they were easiest and quickest to move. Simonson could appreciate the points made, but was disappointed with the timing of them.

Nordmeyer noted that the comment Watters made about the draft municipal court agreement was that there was no plan for distribution of assets. Hayden had heard rumbles about Walworth's meeting and thus did not put more time into finishing the agreement. The attorney knows two sections are missing. If he doesn't finish them, she will. Nordmeyer wants to see Watters' concerns addressed so that the agreement can be brought back to the Walworth Board as a complete package. Hayden will have agreement ready by 9/2 so that it can be sent out to Walworth Board members ahead of time.

Nordmeyer said another concern was that Walworth allows the police chief and lieutenant to pre-try while Fontana has their attorney do pre-trials. Can the commission set procedures? No, the judge sets them. He expresses the hope that whoever's in that position would be amenable to what the Villages want. Andy Long had checked with Walworth's court clerk. Her software program has the ability to separate receipts for the two Villages. Nordmeyer then clarified that it was distribution of receipts that Watters wanted to see in the agreement, not asset distribution.

Long doesn't believe we need to change the direction of the committee. We've already been working on courts and Fire/Rescue at the same time. He also doesn't think we'll need to make many changes to the sample joint fire/rescue agreement from Bloomfield/Genoa City. Andy Long wants to confirm that this committee told him to go ahead with 2009 budget to include fire/rescue staffing during the day time. And if that's not the direction, he needs to know because budgets are due soon. Matt Long thinks we

should have two budgets proposed—one with staffing and one done as before. Spadoni thinks we won't be ready as soon as budgets are due—September or October. Hayden suggests we could forecast for 50% staffing and propose starting in June or July. Budgeting will just be a small part of getting the consolidation done which might not happen until 2010. McGrath and Poltermann both have advised us it doesn't happen overnight. Long would like to see fire and rescue departments within the Villages joined first, then the two Villages joined afterwards. He believes this would take care of a lot of work ahead of the consolidation—there will be one budget, one set of officers for each Village.

Spadoni suggests we study the document from Genoa City and talk about that at the next meeting. Long also proposed initiating some talks at our Boards about consolidating fire/rescue. Chiefs should prepare parallel budgets for staffing. Andy Long will let know Walworth Rescue Chief Schwartz he needs to do the same.

Next meeting date will be Monday, 9/15, at 4:00 p.m. Note this is at 4 p.m., not the usual 5 p.m.

Spadoni/O'Connell motion to adjourn carried by ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Schut, Clerk