



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

MINUTES
MICHIGAN FIRE FIGHTERS TRAINING COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WORK SESSION – RULES
Tuesday, November 10, 2020
1:30 PM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Fj%2F85618149057%3Fpwd%3DYjZ4Vi9RRmVYWXIENmcyd2lxc3dEZz09&data=04%7C01%7CKeownA%40michigan.gov%7C7a6668c364794c3611bd08d87c4765a1%7Cd5fb7087377742ad966a892ef47225d1%7C0%7C0%7C637395993377630345%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAilCJQljoilV2luMzliLjBjTlil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sd=akKaRvAx1jXl8AUTVeU6gSTt3wvR4%2B7KncMAFF8CsS0%3D&reserved=0>

Password: **LNAuq1**

Phone: (216) 706-7075
Or (866) 390-1828 (US Toll Free)
Conference code: 394127

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chad Tackett, Chairperson, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Brian Blomstrom, Vice Chair, Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association
Alan Styles, Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs
Lynnae White, Michigan Fire Inspectors Society
Terrance Blackmer, Michigan State Firemen's Association
Greg Janik, Michigan Municipal League
Jacob Steichen, Nominee of the State Fire Marshal
Aileen Pettinger, Michigan Professional Firefighters Union
Kevin Sehlmeier, State Fire Marshal, Ex-officio Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

BUREAU OF FIRE SERVICES STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Hammerbrg, Region 1 Coordinator, Fire Fighter Training Division
Andrea Keown, Department Technician, Fire Fighter Training Division/Recording Secretary
Hollie Metts, Assistant to the State Fire Marshal (virtual meeting moderator)

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Alfie Green, Detroit Fire Department	Bryan Kukla, Frankenlust Twp. Fire Department
Andy Down, Long lake Twp. Fire Department	Cameron Pichan, Detroit Fire Department
Barry Narrin, Otter Lake Fire & Resuce	Charlie Noonan, Troy Fire Department
Bill Parker, Blair Twp./Northwest RTC	Cindy Conrad, South Lyon Fire Department
Bill Priese, Meridian Twp. Fire Department	Corey Miller, Berkley Dept. Of Public Safety
Brandon Cory, Marquette City Fire Department	Dan Besson, Leland Twp. Fire Department
Brian Marquardt, Eastpoint Fire Department	David Feichtner, Springfield Twp. Fire Department
Brian Sipe, Grand Haven Twp. Fire Department	David Pelton, Walker Fire Department

David Platz, Holly Fire Department
Derek Smith, Long Lake Rescue/Almira Twp. Fire & EMS
Don Drent, Northeast Ingham Emergency Services Authority
Doug Borgeois, Beaver Creek Fire Department
Jack White, Shelby-Benona Fire Department
Jeffrey Hughes, Crockery Twp. Fire Department
Jeff Johnson, Novi Fire Department
Jerry Becker, Harrison Community Fire Department
Jesse Marcotte, Northville Twp. Fire Department
Jim Stevenson, Warren Fire Department
Jon Roberts, Berkley Department of Public Service
Jon Stone, Stanton Twp. Fire Department
John Martin, Novi Fire Department
John Pender, Orion Twp. Fire Department
John VanCoillie, Albert Twp./Lewiston Fire Department
Josh Mosher, Midland Fire Department
Justen Diaz, Memphis Fire Department
Kurt Corradi, Bay City Fire Department
Kurt Grover, St. Clair Shore Fire Department
Liam Carroll, Schoolcraft College RTC
Mark Cleveland, Egelston Twp. Fire Department

Mark Fankhauser, Grand Rapids Fire Department
Matt Majestic, Oakland Community College
Matt Samhat, Northville Fire Department
Michael Yanz, NIESA
Mike Gregorich, Marquette Twp. Fire Department
Mike Keefe, Allendale Fire Department
Mike Koehler, Troy Fire Department
Nick Miller, Hamburg Twp. Fire Department
Paul Hapke, Fennville Area Fire Department
Paul Vosburg, Kalamazoo Airport Fire Department
Rob Ginther, Beverly Hills Dept. Of Public Safety
Robert Smith, Dexter Area Fire Department
Scott Harkes, Allendale Twp. Fire Department
Sean Canto, Rochester Hills Fire Department
Shawn Allen, Sterling Heights Fire Department
Steve Dalton, Clinton Twp. Fire Department
Steve Rynbrandt, Clio Area Fire Department
Steven McKellar, Plainfield Twp. Fire Department
Terrance Chesney, Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union
Thea Dornbush, Muskegon Twp. Fire Department
Timothy Seal, North Oakland County Fire Authority
William Engelter, Lansing Fire Department

I. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:

Before **Chairperson Tackett** called the regular meeting to order, he announced a roll call vote will be done for any motion put forth to council during this meeting and read the following introduction to everyone in the virtual meeting:

"In order to minimize disruptions, until the time designated by the Council for public comment, members of the public will be muted to the Council and other attendees and participants. During the time designated by the Council for public comment, members of public will no longer be muted and may participate and provide their comments by orderly speaking using the microphone on their phone. All existing Council rules regarding public comment (including rules designed to minimize disruptions and allow for full public participation) still apply.

All quorum rules still apply. In the event of a disconnection caused by the meeting host, the Council will be considered to be in recess. Every effort will be made to reestablish a publicly accessible connection. If the host is unable to do so within a period of 30 minutes from the time of the disconnection, the Council will adjourn and not address any new business until its next meeting. Any decisions made prior to the disconnection will be binding. The Council will not recess or adjourn due to technical or other issues experienced by individual members of the public that render them unable to attend or participate in the meeting."

Chairperson Tackett called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM, a roll call was taken

Chairperson Tackett – present
Councilperson Blomstrom – present at 1:46 p.m.
Councilperson Styles – present
Councilperson White – present
Councilperson Blackmer – present
Councilperson Janik – present
Councilperson Steichen – present
Councilperson Pettinger – present

Fire Marshal Sehlmeier – present
A quorum was determined present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

20-11-01

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Janik** and seconded by **Councilperson Pettinger** to approve the November 10th, 2020 regular meeting agenda, as presented.

A roll call vote was taken.

Chairperson Tackett – yes
Councilperson Blomstrom – absent
Councilperson Styles – yes
Councilperson White –yes
Councilperson Blackmer – yes
Councilperson Janik – yes
Councilperson Steichen – yes
Councilperson Pettinger – yes
Fire Marshal Sehlmeier - yes

Eight votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

20-11-02

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Pettinger** and seconded by **Councilperson Blackmer** to approve the following minutes with **Councilperson White's** grammatical edits:

July 28, 2020 Special Meeting
August 11, 2020 Regular Meeting
August 11, 2020 Special Meeting

A roll call vote was taken.

Chairperson Tackett – yes
Councilperson Blomstrom – absent
Councilperson Styles – yes
Councilperson White –yes
Councilperson Blackmer – yes
Councilperson Janik – yes
Councilperson Steichen – yes
Councilperson Pettinger – yes
Fire Marshal Sehlmeier - yes

Eight votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IV. COMMUNICATIONS:

Councilperson Steichen: Mentioned that he has received a lot of feedback about people excited and looking forward to the upcoming Fire Service Expo.

Fire Marshal Sehlmeier: Received a meeting request on November 7, 2020 regarding St. Clair Shores firefighters concerns regarding officer reciprocity. A virtual meeting is in the process of being scheduled.

V. STATE FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT:

a) **BFS Move:** The Bureau of Fire Services no longer resides at 3101 Technology Boulevard. BFS has moved to 611 W. Ottawa Street in downtown Lansing. Currently the building is not open to

the general public and a majority of State workers are working from home until January 2nd, 2021.

- b) **COVID-19 Updates:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier informed everyone about Senate Bill 1108 that was signed by Governor Whitmer (making it now Public Act 228 of 2020), which allows council to continue meeting virtually.
- c) **Legislative Updates**
 - 1) HB 4792 – Unattended Fueling
 - 2) HB 6148 – O'Malley Bill to amend PA 390 of 1976, the Emergency Management Act
- d) **Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II Overview:** Fire Marshal conveyed that BFS has received feedback from the Train-the-Trainers has been positive. Currently there have been 7 sessions with more being scheduled in the future. Those who have taken the Train-the-Trainer will be able to teach Fire Officer I and Fire Officer II. Once the instructors have gone through the Train-the-Trainer, they have to go to the Jones & Bartlett Navigate site and complete all 14 chapter quizzes so they can familiarize themselves with what the students will be expected to do. Fire Marshal also informed everyone that if anyone is having issues with the Jones & Bartlett navigate site, they need to contact Jones & Bartlett, not the Bureau of Fire Services.
- e) **FY20 Grant Report Summary (Handout):** Fire Marshal updated council on the status of fiscal year 2020 grants. Almost all of the departments claimed their grants. The grant program has been successful, but it has been an interesting year, we got a fair amount of money back from some of the grants due to some departments not being able to carry out the purpose of their grant. We did utilize both lists that were made in February.
- f) **Wednesday Wrap-Up:** These will continue bi-weekly on Wednesdays through December. Currently they are scheduled for November 18th, December 2nd, and 16th at 4:00 pm. There will be an additional Wednesday Wrap-Up at 7:00pm on December 2nd. This past Wrap-Up Governor Whitmer was on the call and if you are following on social media, you saw that she did six videos for MI Prevention. Those videos are available for fire departments to use on their social media, just reach out to Kymberly Pashowsky who is running the MI Prevention program and she can get you those videos. Those videos include over all fire deaths, smoking, cooking, heating equipment, and even one on Christmas decorations. Our governor has clearly come out in support of MI Prevention and community risk reduction. We also have a lot of public service announcement items that are coming out from MI Prevention that should be able to keep your social media platform full.
- g) **2020 Fatal Fires:** As of Sunday (11/9/2020) there have been a total of 100 fatal fires. We are 10% above year to date of where we were in 2019 (102) but the state is below where we were in 2018. We will continue to do the messaging and the outreach based on what we are learning from each one of these fires when we get the fatal fire reports back. Fire Marshal gave a shout out to Trevor Slater from the Michigan State Police (MSP) who oversees the Fire Investigation Unit. MSP has started using the Fatal Fire Form and submitting it online which has been a huge help in getting the data in as quickly as possible. Fire Marshal also gave a shout out to Kyle Svoboda at Plainfield Fire who manages the collection of data and Kurtis Gear who created the MI Prevention app. We could not do the work we do without them. Fire Marshal also took the opportunity to congratulate councilmember Aileen Pettinger for winning the Firemen Larry Fire Educator award from the Michigan Fire Inspector Society. She was sighted for the great work she has been doing for the Sound Off program. Great work by the Saginaw Fire Department.
- h) **Revised Course Summary (Handouts):** Fire marshal provided council with handouts for FY21 and let them know that since we are only five weeks in to fiscal year 2021, there have not been a lot of tests, so there will not be much data, but we thought it was important that council had the handout.
- i) **Draft FFTC Rules Update:** The Draft FFTC Rules have been approved by the Regulatory Affairs Officer. The next step is for the bureau to prepare the Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) and Cost Benefit Analysis. Then the RIS/Cost Benefit Analysis goes to Michigan Office of

Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) for approval and MOAHR notifies JCAR. Once approved, we can begin scheduling the public hearing. For a breakdown of the rulemaking process click [here](#).

VI. CURRICULUM WORK GROUP REPORT:

Councilperson Blomstrom conveyed that the next order of business for the curriculum committee will be updating the Driver's Training test. McNeil has stated that the new test and materials will be out in December. Once the materials are in hand, we can look to see about updating the current test. Other than that, we are waiting for the fire marshal to choose the next curriculum to look at besides drivers training. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier informed Councilperson Blomstrom that the next curriculum will be Fire Officer II and we are currently working on developing that exam. We are doing our best to be able to get it in by the end of the year.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

- a) **Draft Rules to Michigan Office Of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR):** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier mentioned he already covered the new business in his report.
- b) **FY21 Grants:** Fire Marshal Sehlmeier initiated conversation regarding what council would like to do next year with the grant monies that comes back from counties. One of the things to look at is how we are going to distribute the money going forward. While the current process works, the Bureau of Fire Services spend 20-30 hours a month throughout the rest of the year managing that program. The Rules state that after December 31st, the money comes back to the council and the council gets to disperse it. Is there a better way to redistribute that money after January 1st? Do we need to look at putting the money into a big project, a couple projects? We need to look at the process to distribute that. Councilperson Steichen mentioned to have some type of lottery system. Dialogue was had among council members that departments would have to be sure to be NFIRS compliant, adhered to all the grant rules previously and not been awarded a grant in the last 2-3 years in order to put in for the lottery process. Fire Marshal Sehlmeier also mentioned that someone proposed all the counties that did not turn in money have the money that was returned be spill up between them. So if your county turned in money you are not eligible for the redistribution. The issue with that, is that we get money returned all year long. Fire Marshal proposed the idea of using the funds to help put facilities to address Live Fire training across the state. Dialogue was had among council members. Councilperson Pettinger brought forth that she has been approached about behavioral health. With the stressors from this field and with Covid, she suggested group or peer support that has been done in the past. Mental health is as important as live firing training. Chairperson Tackett suggested to the fire marshal that a one page plan be made to present to council at the December meeting regarding the redistribution of funds.
- c) **Shiawassee County Live Fire Training Seminar:** Bill Pawluk sent in a letter with the results of the grant that was given to Shiawassee County to do five Live Fire training days at Lansing Community College. The feedback from the training was positive and a good regional outreach opportunity.
- d) **Q Course Applications:** Red text denotes unsigned Q Courses.
 - 1) **SOFA Advanced Forcible Entry Techniques (FMQ20-016)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
 - 2) **SOFA Advanced Hose Management & Nozzle Attack (FMQ20-017)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
 - 3) **SOFA Basic Ground Ladder Techniques (FMQ20-018)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com

- 4) **SOFA Initial HazMat Operations (FMQ20-019)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
- 5) **SOFA Sustained HazMat Operations (FMQ20-020)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
- 6) **SOFA Advanced Ground Ladder Techniques (FMQ20-021)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
- 7) **SOFA Basic Forcible Entry Techniques (FMQ20-022)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
- 8) **SOFA Basic Hose Management & Nozzle Attack (FMQ20-023)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
- 9) **SOFA Mid-Rise and High-Rise Fire Ground Operations (FMQ20-024)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
- 10) **SOFA Thermal Imaging Camera Techniques (FMQ20-025)**
Instructor: Robert Ginther / Phone: (248) 540-3417
Email: rginther@beverlyhillspolice.com
- 11) **Insight Fire Training, Tactical Thermal Imaging (FMQ20-026)**
Instructor: Jacob Latson / Phone: (810) 599-6562
Email: latson3146@yahoo.com
- 12) **Rescue Our Crew (FMQ20-027)**
Instructor: Derek Smith / Phone: (734) 660-2652
Email: dsmith@longlaketownship.com
- 13) **Michigan Urban Search & Rescue Awareness/Ops Rope Rescue (FMQ20-028)**
Instructor: Dave VanHolstyn / Phone: 616-299-5772
Email: truckff@yahoo.com
- 14) **NWTC Vehicle Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician (FMQ20-029)**
Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 15) **NWTC Vehicle Rescue Technician (FMQ20-030)**
Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 16) **NWTC Structural Collapse Rescue Technician (FMQ20-031)**
Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 17) **NWTC Trench Rescue Awareness and Operations (FMQ20-032)**
Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 18) **NWTC Confined Space Rescue Awareness and Operations (FMQ20-033)**
Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 19) **NWTC Confined Space Rescue Technician (FMQ20-034)**
Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com

- 20) NWTC Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations (FMQ20-035)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 21) NWTC Hazardous Materials Technician (FMQ20-036)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 22) NWTC Rope Rescue Awareness and Operations (FMQ20-037)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 23) NWTC Rope Rescue Technician (FMQ20-038)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 24) NWTC Structural Collapse Rescue Awareness and Operations (FMQ20-039)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 25) NWTC Trench Rescue Awareness, Operations and Technician (FMQ20-040)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 26) NWTC Trench Rescue Technician (FMQ20-041)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 27) NWTC Vehicle Rescue Awareness and Operations (FMQ20-042)**
 Instructor(s): Aaron Droessler & Rick James / Phone: (920) 422-1341
 Email: aaron.droessler@apex-safety.com / rick.james@apex-safety.com
- 28) Modern Engine Operations (FMQ20-043)**
 Instructor(s): Steve Stawecki & Chris Gruener
 Email: stephenstawecki@yahoo.com

Chairperson Tackett suggested because of the number of Q courses that they be grouped. The SOFA courses first, the Insight, Rescue Our Crew, and Michigan Urban Search & Rescue be separate, and NWTC be grouped. Councilperson Styles observed that there are several Q course applications that are not signed, therefore are invalid and should not be on the docket. FMQ20-018, FMQ20-026, and FMQ20-028 though FMQ20-042 are not signed, therefore not voted on.

20-11-03

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Styles** and supported by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve **FMQ20-016, FMQ20-017, and FMQ20-019** through **FMQ20-025** submitted by Rob Ginther, Beverly Hills Dept. Of Public Safety.

- Chairperson Tackett – yes
- Councilperson Blomstrom – yes
- Councilperson Styles – yes
- Councilperson White – yes
- Councilperson Blackmer – yes
- Councilperson Janik – yes
- Councilperson Steichen – yes
- Councilperson Pettinger – yes
- Fire Marshal Sehlmeier – yes

Nine votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

20-11-04

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Styles** and supported by **Councilperson Blomstrom** to approve **FMQ20-027** submitted by Derek Smith, Long Lake Rescue/Almira Twp. Fire & EMS.

Chairperson Tackett – yes
Councilperson Blomstrom – yes
Councilperson Styles – yes
Councilperson White – yes
Councilperson Blackmer – yes
Councilperson Janik – yes
Councilperson Steichen – yes
Councilperson Pettinger – yes
Fire Marshal Sehlmeier – yes

Nine votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

20-11-05

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Blomstrom** and supported by **Councilperson Janik** to approve **FMQ20-043** submitted by Steve Stawecki & Chris Gruener.

Chairperson Tackett – yes
Councilperson Blomstrom – yes
Councilperson Styles – yes
Councilperson White – yes
Councilperson Blackmer – yes
Councilperson Janik – yes
Councilperson Steichen – yes
Councilperson Pettinger – yes
Fire Marshal Sehlmeier – yes

Nine votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rob Ginther, Beverly Hills Public Safety: Commends council and apologized for the one unsigned Q course application. He will resubmit the application for the December agenda. Thanks council.

Tim Seal, North Oakland County Fire Authority: There are a vast array of approved Q courses that are training outside of basic training. Would recommend council considers the amount of maximum allowed for each council funded course that is already a council curriculum. Some of the funding falls well short of the actual cost for running the class. Council should reevaluate the course catalog and look at the hours and make sure that council is on par with the fees and the hours associated with the practical skills. Would like to see the fireworks funds try to fully fund the courses so we can put them out there for free for anyone who wants to be trained.

Dave Feichtner, Springfield Twp. Fire Department: Echoes some of Tim's comments. It makes sense both with retention and logically, that we, moving forward in our training plan, plan on fully funding every recruit school, driver's training, and hazmat that happens throughout the state, that that should be our primary focus with initial education and then ensure that ongoing education happens. But if we cannot fully fund all the recruit schools that are underfunded, if we did some sort of study and found out the actual cost of a Fire I & II class is, we will see they are underfunded and we should focus on making sure that the class is funded as well as all the additional instructors it takes.

Jon Stone, Stanton Twp. Fire Department: Wanted to highlight that if we do move in the direction of the mobile live fire that would make an ideal regional AFG Request at the state level. Thinks we

can leverage the MFFTC SMOKE money in order to make that happen. Having live fire training enhances recruitment, enhances the quality of training, and it really enhances continuing education training by allowing people to come back in and work on their skills. I think this would show our statewide commitment and Michigan as a leader nationally in our programming, especially for fire training. I think that would be innovative and other states might take notice of what we're doing as well.

Jack White, Shelby-Benona Fire Department: Piggy backed off Jon's statement. About 12 years ago, his county wrote an AFG Grant for a mobile live fire training unit. Have had it for 12 years and has proved to be a useful tool.

Matt Majestic, Oakland Community College: The other thing to keep in mind, is that the live fire mobile unit is not just a one time purchase, there are upkeep costs and insurance associated with it.

X. COUNCIL COMMENT:

Councilperson Tackett: Thanks everybody. I'm not going to sit here and reiterate what everyone said. There were a lot of good points and a lot of good discussion. I'll end it with Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and your families and hopes everyone is being safe and healthy this season.

Councilperson Blomstrom: Looking forward to the next meeting and discussing live fire training and behavioral mental health. I am in favor of maybe having a special work session before the meeting so we can throw that out there. I do want to speak to Tim and Dave, I think you are spot on when it comes to the funding. If you remember last December at the Instructors conference, I made a 3 point proposal on how to increase the funding for Firefighter I & II based on a student ratio of 15, 20, and 25. That was voted down by council, I have no problem bringing it back, I have to find out how I can bring back a motion like that once it has been voted on. I can try to work on that also for December but I will need to try to figure out how to do another motion that doesn't mimic my last one a year ago but has the ability to be looked at again by council. Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilperson Styles: We all do need to sit down and go back to look for some ideas for the way to do the grants. I strive hard on mental health and I have had people request for me to do my class because people are struggling. We also have to take a look at live fire and the long term, what's it going to take to fulfill it. Other than that I wish everyone to stay safe and healthy. Please follow the social distancing orders. I don't want to see anyone getting sick from it.

Councilperson White: Agree with what Chief Styles just said also and what Jake had said there is no way we are going to be able to come up with something that is going to be perfect for every fire department in the state, but we will do our best. I will look into different things and will be back in December to discuss them. Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilperson Blackmer: A quick question for the fire marshal. I saw that we set another record on Covid cases. Do we expect that we are going to be able to continue our fire academies and classes or are we expecting that we should prepare to start to slow things down, similar to what happened last year? Fire marshal responded, I think realistically you should start looking at that. I think the cases continue to grow; I think one of the things that, as a council, we shared that virtual was an option. You still have to do the 16, 8 hour days if you are doing the hands on but any time we can split up the class in half, use the J&B learning platform to eliminate large gatherings but I do see where we are going to have to be more flexible in the future.

Councilperson Janik: Grateful for the volume of attendance online. It really shows great interest. Looks forward to the December meeting. I think the behavioral health and live fire training have real merit to them and are worthy of our time to look in to in depth and help with Kevin on finding out which way to go

Councilperson Steichen: Wanted to highlight how awesome it is to be a firefighter right now. The level of engagement and the amount of communication and the statewide coordination is amazing. I tuned in to a couple of the Wednesday Wrap-Up's in the last few months and see a lot of the same names and faces on these meetings. What everybody is doing is good and the fire service is

benefitting from it, whether we feel it or not. I do encourage everybody to reach out to their CTC's and make sure all monies are encumbered so we do not have to worry about to spend the money come January 1. If the money does come in, I believe council will find a great way to spend it and live fire and behavioral health are a very high priority for all of us. I will be sending the fire marshal my opinions on both of these and I look for anyone in Northern Michigan or Michigan in general to email me or call me and let me know your opinion, so I can mesh them all together in an email to the fire marshal.

Councilperson Pettinger: Appreciates everyone's input today. I am encouraged that the rules are already progressing pretty quickly. In regard to these grants, the reason I brought it up is because in my own department we've had maydays and while I think live fire training, we definitely need it, we also need to be mentally fit to fight fires. I will definitely encourage anyone to email me or call me with advice for live fire information. I will be researching both that and behavioral health and come back in December and offer some more input. Everyone have a Happy Thanksgiving and stay safe with Covid. It's not going away, please wear your mask.

Fire Marshal Sehmeyer: Asks that we look at doing a work session the morning of the December 4th meeting. Would like to take some time to talk about FF I&I funding on that morning if we can. One of the things we should wrap our heads around is that we are giving every county \$17,500.00 now and we want to make sure we cover Firefighter I&I, Driver's Training, HazMat Ops, but that \$17,500.00 is probably not enough. Do we look at changing what each county gets? Would like anyone with suggestions to help provide solutions to reach out and engage with council members. I also want to share this; our office has received a number of complaints or constructive criticism regarding the students that got caught up in the academy last year when Covid hit. They felt that they were rushed through the hands on part where they did not get the skills they needed. We have to think about how we are going to do the hands on part going forward. I have a meeting at the end of the month with the County Training Chairpersons. The idea is to talk with them on how they collaborate, so they do not have to turn money in. Thank you to council for working with us, especially when we had to cancel the meetings while we waited on the ruling from the executive orders and stay healthy, stay safe.

d) **ADJOURNMENT:**

20-11-06

A **MOTION** was made by **Councilperson Janik** and seconded by **Councilperson White** to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

Chairperson Tackett – yes
Councilperson Blomstrom – yes
Councilperson Styles – yes
Councilperson White – yes
Councilperson Blackmer – yes
Councilperson Janik – yes
Councilperson Steichen – yes
Councilperson Pettinger – yes
Fire Marshal Sehmeyer – yes

Nine votes yes. **MOTION CARRIED.** The meeting adjourned at 3:32 PM.

APPROVED:



Chairperson Tackett



Councilmember