

**City of Cologne
Special Council Meeting
August 17, 2015**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special council meeting was held on Monday, August 17, 2015 to discuss the Cologne Fire Department Pension at the Cologne Community Center. Mayor Scott Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers Jeff McInnis, Carol Szaroletta, Don Meyer were present. Councilmember Kyle Evenski was absent. City Administrator Jesse Dickson and City Clerk Sue Mueller were present. Fire Chief Charles Joos, Firemen John Hendel and Tom Kasel were in attendance.

a) Cologne Fire Department Pension

Mayor Scott Williams explained the increase the Cologne Fire Department is requesting from the city.

Councilmember Don Meyer requested information on the number of calls the Fire Department gets a year. Chief Charles Joos responded between 90-100 a year

Councilmember Don Meyer stated he would like to see the increase to \$1,500.00 per year of service. Councilmember Meyer asked why the Fire Department isn't under PERA? Fireman John Hendel and Chief Charles Joos responded it takes away the Fire Relief Associations responsibility of managing the money, it also takes five years to be vested. Chief Joos stated that any city that would have gone to PERA would have already been 100% funded.

Councilmember Jeff McInnis recommended more discussion and more information on:

- ✓ Roster Numbers
- ✓ Training & Calls – Who responds? What are the required amounts for training and calls? Are some days Firemen not enough able to respond? Councilmember McInnis asked if all training and calls are documented?

Chief Joos stated they are on call 24/7, some days it is pretty slim depending on who is available.

Chief Joos stated most of the members meet the 50% on call requirement and 66% training requirement. Councilmember McInnis asked if the requirements are on record, and Chief Joos responded yes.

Councilmember Jeff McInnis recommended a gradual increase as \$1,500.00 is a large amount at one time. Councilmember McInnis asked how the number of Roster members is determined? Chief Joos explained there are regulations regarding how many firemen are required for certain fires/accidents and what the different firemen can do according to their training.

Fireman John Hendel explained the differences between other communities with higher populations that may have the same or close roster numbers, but not have the area to cover for fires/accidents.

Fireman Tom Kasel stated the amount of money requested is the same amount whether the process had been started five to ten years ago. The city was able to hold on-to the money until now.

Mayor Scott Williams would like to see more discussion with the Townships before any decision is made. Mayor Williams would like more information on how other Fire Departments were able to get fully funded gradually.

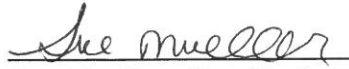
Councilmember Jeff McInnis recommended this should be something to be added to the budget process. He also would like to see more information presented to a full Council.

Councilmember McInnis directed City Administrator Jesse Dickson to report back with information on what it would take to get the pension fund fully funded in five years.

ADJOURN MEETING

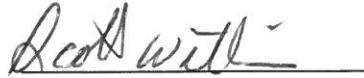
Motion to adjourn by Szaroletta, seconded by McInnis to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Sue Mueller, City Clerk

ATTEST:



Scott Williams, Mayor