

City of Stewart Council Special Meeting Minutes August 26, 2025

6:30 pm Call to Order the Special Fire, EMR, Township, and City Council Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll call;

Bismark Township-absent
Collins Township-1
Grafton Township-absent
Preston Lake Township-1
Round Grove Township-2

Mayor: Jason Peirce - here
Council Member: Carol Altrichter -here
Council Member: James Eitel - here
Council Member: Wes Holtz – here 7pm
Council Member: Daniel Broucek - absent

Approval of Minutes from August 20, 2024

-Keith Fredrickson pointed out that the benefit contribution was \$1,950 and not \$2,000 for the Relief Pension

Motion to approve minutes from August 20, 2024, Pete/Robert, all in favor, motion carries

Mayor Peirce will turn the meeting over to Fire Chief Josh Cox

1. Discussion of Fire Budget
 - A. Approval of the Fire Budget
 - Clothing budget has gone up because of the expected increase in cost from tariffs
 - Training and travel has increased because of new members joining
 - Motion to approve 2026 Fire Budget, Pete/Dale, all in favor, motion carries
2. Discussion of any other information requested to be discussed

Mayor Peirce will turn the meeting over to EMR Captain David Maiers

1. Discussion of EMR Budget
 - A. Approval of the EMR Budget
 - Wages have increased because of new members joining
 - Training has also increased because of new members
 - There has been decreases in immunizations and travel/hotel
 - Captain Maiers has provided everyone with a proposal for a brand-new rescue vehicle replacement in the upcoming years. The expected price is \$275,000 for 2025 prices, but with an estimated 15% inflation, it will be closer to \$316,250 in 2027/2028.
 - The budget has increased less than \$1,000 from last year
 - Motion to approve 2026 EMR Budget, Robert/Pete, all in favor, motion carries
2. Discussion of any other information requested to be discussed
 - a. There were 2 resignations in 2024 for the Fire Department
 - b. Chief Cox informed everyone that he is resigning, and will be done by the end of this month
 - c. Mike Hansen will be taking over the chief position

City of Stewart Council Special Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2025

- d. Mayor Peirce brought up the topic of the Buffalo Lake ambulance and their request to receive funds from the areas they service
 - i. Councilmember Altrichter stated that they have billable services, so the amount they are requesting is quite high

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:17pm, Pat/Robert, all in favor, motion carries