

CITY OF UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, OHIO

COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

September 13, 2022

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Attendance: Vice Mayor Michele Weiss
Councilwoman Sheri Sax
Fire Chief Robert Perko
Councilman John Rach
Phil Atkin, resident
Jeremy Steiger ??? resident

Also present: Fire Chief John C. Reese, North Ridgeville

A meeting was held at the North Ridgeville fire station on September 13, 2022.

Chief Reese gave a tour of the new North Ridgeville facility. The following characteristics were noted about the city and the fire station(s):

- North Ridgeville has 35,000 residents and is 25 square miles
- The city has two fire stations
- An \$8.1 million levy was passed to build this, but it only cost \$6.5 million for construction
- There is a hold area that has a receptionist behind glass to allow entrance to the second floor
- A specific safety architect created the space, and there are about 20 of these in the country
- It took 18 months to build
- A triage area exists right after the double doors, and it can be accessed by merely entering the set of doors; this is a great idea
- There is a training room with storage for all of the chairs and tables to be moved out for hands-on training
- There is a small library and a small kitchenette
- There are screens throughout the building in the hallways with updates
- North Ridgeville has 36 firemen; 3 admins with 1 secretary
- The windows have shades that are built into the tracks to black out light
- There is an IT closet that is right sized
- The floors are two different types throughout the building, but they prefer the polished concrete because it is less slippery
- The building is two levels, and here are janitors' closets on each level

DRAFT

- There is an empty dispatch center because the city regionalized, but firefighters use that space for paperwork
- There is an EMS supply room; that is one of the few rooms with a camera because there are narcotics in that space
- All doors have codes to track entrance
- There is a conference room with a kitchenette
- The chief's office is 200 sq. ft. with a full bathroom
- There are two assistant chiefs and each have a shared office
- Fire prevention also has a space
- North Ridgeville has three shifts
- There are two stairwells like Beachwood; one is used to train, which is an excellent idea - with equipment on the outside as well to climb and hook-up
- Here is a small basement with a workout room

BAY

- There are 4 bays for 3 trucks, and 3 ambulances with a captain's car and a boat
- The bay is 4,000 sq. ft. with entrances on both sides; and they only back in
- There is a bathroom off the bay
- They have a **decontamination** alcove without a door; a nice feature
- There is a storage room
- There is a tool room
- There is a gear laundry room
- There is a great compression room
- There is also a lawn maintenance room

DORM

- The dorms are on the second level and have 10 rooms and 3 bathrooms. There are curtains – and not doors on purposes so that people do not linger in their room
- The two captains have their own rooms with doors and full bathrooms
- There is a union work room
- There is a laundry room
- The kitchen includes a combined movie room

LIKES

THE CHIEF MADE A POINT TO SAY THAT THEY BUILT THE STATION BARE BONES IN TERMS OF AESTHETICS BECAUSE IT IS THE PEOPLE'S MONEY. THERE IS NOTHING FANCY, JUST NECESSITIES.

OTHER COMMENT:

THE BASEMENT COULD HAVE BEEN BIGGER.

SUBMITTED BY:

**JEUNE DRAYTON
ASSISTANT CLERK OF COUNCIL**

**MICHELE WEISS, CHAIR
COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE**