



City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: January 19, 2010

SUBJECT: Certificate of Appreciation for retired Fire Engineers Monty Losh and Guy Baerd

Report in Brief

Fire Engineers Monty Losh and Guy Baerd retired on December 30, 2009 after serving the City of Woodland honorably for over 55 years combined. The dedication of these two employees to the Woodland Fire Department and to this community is worthy of recognition.

Staff recommends that the City Council sign a Certificate of Appreciation for Fire Engineers Monty Losh and Guy Baerd acknowledging their many years of service to the Woodland Fire Department and the community.

Background

Monty Losh began his fire service career with the Woodland Fire Department in 1982 and worked for several years as a Firefighter before promoting to Fire Engineer in 2005. Monty retired on December 30, 2009 with 28 years of experience working for the City of Woodland.

Guy Baerd was hired by the Woodland Fire Department in 1982 and was later promoted to Fire Engineer in 1991. Guy retired on December 30, 2009 with 27 years, 10 months of experience working for the City of Woodland.

The City Council should note that neither employee wished to be recognized publicly so this item has been placed as a consent item.

Discussion

Monty Losh entered the fire service as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Spring Lake Fire Department in 1974. He volunteered his service for several years before he was hired by Spring Lake as a career Firefighter in 1981. Losh became a Woodland Firefighter on January 3, 1982, a year later, when the Woodland Fire Department and the Spring Lake Fire Departments consolidated. Losh promoted to

Fire Engineer on July 25, 2005, the position he held until the end of his 28 years of service to the City of Woodland.

Born in Oroville, CA and a graduate of Woodland High School, Losh worked for Woodland Memorial Hospital for seven years and the City of Davis for seven years prior to becoming a fire service professional. During his time here in Woodland Losh also served his fellow firefighters as the President and Vice President of the Woodland Professional Firefighters labor organization. Losh and his wife Debbie have four children and eight grandchildren and look forward to traveling and spending more time together as a family.

Guy Baerd has worked in the fire service for over 37 years. Beginning in 1972, after serving honorably in the United State Marine Corps, Baerd was hired as a Firefighter with the Santa Rosa Fire Department. Baerd later advanced to the position of Firefighter/Driver Operator before leaving Santa Rosa to work overseas on the island of Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands. Baerd worked as a Firefighter/Driver/Crash & Rescue for the Kwajalein Fire Department and later served as an Inspector before promoting to the rank of Lieutenant.

Baerd returned to the states and worked six years for the U.S. Forest Service including assignments as a skilled crewman in the Lake Tahoe Basin; a fire lookout at the Zephyr Lookout in Zephyr Cove, NV; training as a smoke jumper in the Trinity National Forest; a Fire Prevention Specialist near Verdi, NV; and a squad boss and acting crew boss in the Big Bar Ranger District in Trinity County, CA.

Baerd came to the Woodland Fire Department on March 1, 1982 as a Firefighter; later promoting to Fire Engineer on October 1, 1991. During his career of over 27 years here in Woodland, Baerd instructed for the Yolo County Office of Education Regional Occupation Program (R.O.P.) fire academy and has helped many firefighters study and train to become a Fire Engineer. Baerd and his wife Robyn are looking forward to spending more time together and to traveling and exploring new and interesting places.

Fire Engineers are responsible for the constant readiness of the fire engines and the equipment carried on them. Engineers drive the fire apparatus to the emergency scene making sure the crew arrives safely. An Engineer must know the City streets as they are responsible for getting the crew to the emergency scene immediately, including in the middle of the night after awakening from a sound sleep. If the emergency is a structural fire, the Engineer ensures the fire engine has an adequate water supply and operates the onboard fire pump supplying water to the firefighters on the hose line. Safety is paramount to an Engineer as everything he/she does supports the safety of themselves and their crew. Engineers must also know the municipal water system, and the many buildings and fire protection systems in the City.

The loss of experience alone when any senior member of the Fire Department retires is significant enough by itself; however, losing over 55 years of specific knowledge of this community as related to fire protection, and the firefighting experience that two senior Engineers like Losh and Baerd have, is certainly significant. Both of these men are highly respected by their peers and they will be missed.

SUBJECT: Certificate of Appreciation for retired Fire Engineers
Monty Losh and Guy Baerd

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ITEM:

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that the City Council sign a Certificate of Appreciation for Fire Engineers Monty Losh and Guy Baerd acknowledging their many years of service to the Woodland Fire Department and the community.

Prepared by: Tod Reddish
Fire Chief

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachments: Certificate of Appreciation for Monty Losh
Certificate of Appreciation for Guyler Baerd

City of Woodland

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION RECOGNIZING MONTY LOSH'S 28 YEARS OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, Monty began his service to the community as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Spring Lake Fire Department in 1974;

WHEREAS, Monty became a career Firefighter with the Spring Lake Fire Department in 1981, and then with the Woodland Fire Department on January 3rd, 1982 following consolidation of the two departments; and

WHEREAS, Monty was promoted to Fire Engineer on July 25th, 2005; and

WHEREAS, Monty's focus everyday was the safety for his crew by not only making sure the engine and equipment was ready to go, but that their safe arrival to, and their safe return from, every alarm was ensured. Monty clearly understood and had a passionate commitment to his job, to the firefighters he worked with, and to the public he served.

WHEREAS, Monty's knowledge and experience of the community, the department, and the fire service was a tremendous asset to both the Woodland Fire Department and the City of Woodland; and

WHEREAS, Monty is a clear example of why the Woodland Fire Department is a first-rate organization; and

WHEREAS, Monty retired December 30, 2009 with 28 years of outstanding, professional, and loyal service to the City of Woodland Fire Department; and

NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND DOES HEREBY thank, commend and congratulate Monty Losh upon his retirement from the Woodland Fire Department and wish him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

DATED: January 19, 2010

Marlin H. Davies, Mayor

Artemio Pimentel, Vice-Mayor

Martie L. Dote, Council Member

William L. Marble, Council Member

Jeff W. Monroe, Council Member

City of Woodland

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION RECOGNIZING GUYLER BAERD'S 27+ YEARS OF SERVICE

WHEREAS, Guy Baerd was hired by the City of Woodland Fire Department as a Firefighter on March 1st, 1982 after honorably serving with the United States Marine Corps, the Santa Rosa Fire Department, and the U.S. Forest Service; and

WHEREAS, Guy was promoted to Fire Engineer on October 1st, 1991; and

WHEREAS, Guy's focus everyday was the safety for his crew by not only making sure the engine and equipment was ready to go, but that their safe arrival to, and their safe return from, every alarm was ensured. Guy maintained an optimum level of performance beyond the scope of his duties as Fire Engineer. Guy clearly understood and had a passionate commitment to his job, to the firefighters he worked with, and to the public he served.

WHEREAS, Guy's knowledge and experience of the community, the department, and the fire service was a tremendous asset to both the Woodland Fire Department and the City of Woodland; and

WHEREAS, Guy is a clear example of why the Woodland Fire Department is a first-rate organization; and

WHEREAS, Guy retired December 30, 2009 with 27 years, 10 months of outstanding, professional, and loyal service to the City of Woodland Fire Department, and over 37 years of service to the fire service profession; and

NOW, THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND DOES HEREBY thank, commend and congratulate Guyler Baerd upon his retirement from the Woodland Fire Department and wish him well in his retirement and future endeavors.

DATED: January 19, 2010

Marlin H. Davies, Mayor

Artemio Pimentel, Vice-Mayor

Martie L. Dote, Council Member

William L. Marble, Council Member

Jeff W. Monroe, Council Member