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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Timmsen receives Managing Officer Program certificate

Completes two year National Fire Academy program



MUSCATINE, Iowa – A member of the Muscatine Fire Department was presented a framed certificate Monday (April 10) after completing a two-year program from the National Fire Academy for the Managing Officer Program. Lt. Joe Timmsen received his certificate from Muscatine Fire Chief Jerry Ewers.

“This was a new program that he applied for and was accepted into the first class offered,” Ewers said. “It is designed for mid-level managers and is a great accomplishment for Joe. Hopefully others will apply to the program as well.”

Timmsen’s capstone project was a discussion on the use of crosslays in relation to pulling hose from a fire truck. Crosslays are connected to pump discharge piping fitted with a swivel that allows the hose to be deployed from either side of the apparatus. This is different than pulling hose off the back of the engine and breaking the couplings apart to attach to the pump discharge outlet on the side of the truck.

“I researched all the fires in the last three to four years and looked at the distances between where the engines parked and where the fires were,” Timmsen said. “I looked at how the city blocks are laid out and how many times pre-connects or crosslays came up short, and then discussed better options.”



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Timmsen was referring to gauging the distance from the fire engine to the seat of the fire, and then determining what the most efficient hose deployment is as each one is set up differently with a different length.

The process for using crosslays is a little different today with the development of larger fire trucks.

“Some of the ways to use crosslays have not changed for long periods of time,” Lt. Timmsen said. “With the bigger trucks today that process needs to change for the most efficient use of hose deployment.

The capstone project was the final step for Timmsen who also attended four 16 hour classes in the area along with some on-line courses.

“I also travelled to the National Fire Academy for several one week sessions,” Timmsen said.

The multiyear program introduces change management, risk reduction, and adaptive leadership to individuals in emergency services leadership roles using the four elements of professional development including education training, experience and continuing education.

“In Muscatine, like other departments, the primary mission is to suppress fires and be proficient in getting the hose into service quickly and putting water on the fire,” Ewers said. “When a fire doubles in size every minute something as simple as using the correct or most appropriate hose line on an engine can make a difference.”

-30-

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