

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
7447 W. LAWRENCE AVE.
HARWOOD HEIGHTS, IL 60706**

The Board of Trustees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, Cook County, Illinois convened at the regular meeting place of said Board on the 15th day of June 2026, at 6:36 P.M. at 7447 W. Lawrence Ave., Harwood Heights, Illinois.

The meeting was called to order and upon roll call the following named members answered present:

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; absent, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes, Chief Peistrup; yes.

The pledge was said at the start of the meeting.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE (Public Participation)

A motion was made by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Palazzo to suspend the rules to permit visitors to be recognized. The Board retains the right to recognize any individual if they feel their comments are not relevant or to "put them off" if they exceed their time allotment. After all, have had an opportunity to address the Board, the President moves the rules be reinstated, and the Board will proceed with meeting.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the following minutes:

- Board of Trustee Regular meeting minutes held on May 18, 2026.
- Approve and keep closed May 18, 2026, Closed Session meeting minutes.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; absent, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

Chief stated he hopes all is well and that all Trustees received a written report.

Call volume for May was 339. We are down from previous year by around 100 calls.

A firefighter that was with us for three years resigned on May 17th to go to Chicago FD. Currently we are down 5 firefighters. The new list was finalized, and we are currently

processing four and they will start July 1st. Three of the candidates will need to go to the fire academy in August. Chief explained the procedure when someone takes their 1st pass when given a conditional offer.

There has been overtime due to the shortage in manpower but that should lessen soon.

The employees are currently having their mental health evaluations this year.

The generator project has been slow moving, Chief spoke with engineer and he states the wheels are in motion, but no date of installation was given.

We received a grant from the Office of the State Fire Marshall for \$26,000 to help offset the cost of SCBA bottles.

There is a CD maturing on June 21st, Chief will shop rates.

The District currently has 11 million in cash with one month of the fiscal year remaining. Part of this is due to not being able to hire firefighters.

Trustee Rybak stated that some of the 11 million is going towards the equipment ordered. We have an engine that should be completed in 2028 and 2 ambulances (expected to be completed in 2027 and 2028).

Chief stated at the Building and Equipment Committee meeting it was decided to go out to bid for the garage doors.

Motion by Trustee Rybak seconded by Trustee Mezzano to approve the Chief's report for May 2026.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Rybak stated she would like to move next month's board meeting to June 27, 2026. Discussion.

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
May 31, 2026

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	\$619,376.95
Wintrust -MM #2776	4,602,824.48
Wintrust- Checking #9771	30,192.86
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	788,259.54
Wintrust- Medical #0599	594.33
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,283.35

Wintrust- FSA #0713	18,870.93
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	17,129.56
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$6,078,532.00</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (3.6%, 02/10/28)	1,105,347.04
Belmont Bank (4.25% 06/21/26)	659,471.31
Belmont Bank (3.65% 01/19/28)	1,105,629.90
Belmont Bank (4.25%, 3/29/26)	1,038,890.41
Wintrust Bank (3.9%, 7/21/27)	1,032,378.09
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$4,941,716.75</u>

Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$11,020,248.75</u>
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Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to approve the following:

- May's Account Payable Expenditures- \$538,687.04.
- The Treasurer's report as presented from the Financial Statement for May 2026

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; absent, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Santoro stated she had nothing to report, the Chief covered it.

Building and Equipment Committee- Trustee Wegrecki stated there was a Building and Equipment meeting earlier, they discussed going out to bid for overhead doors on the bay floor.

Policy Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated he had nothing to report.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro not present. Chief stated that we are in block party season, as well as other events coming up: Child Expo, Touch-A-Truck, Island in the City, National Night Out, and Harwood Heights and Norridge carnivals.

Pension Fund Member- Trustee Massaro stated they had a meeting, bills were paid, Randy Davis was reelected and voted on resignation of firefighter

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to adopt and approve Ordinance #26-3, an Ordinance approving the Tentative Budget and Appropriations for 2026-2027.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; absent, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the appointment of Richard Appelhans as Fire Commissioner of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District for a three-year term, from June 1, 2026, through May 31, 2029.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; absent, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve the emergency replacement of six overhead doors was tabled.

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Massaro to approve the consent agenda:
Approve the Finance Committee meeting minutes from May 18, 2026.

Ratify the payment to MABAS XX in the amount of \$7,000 for annual dues.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; absent, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Palazzo and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM.

Louis Mezzano
Secretary

Joanne Rybak
President