

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

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 19th day of October 2020 at 6:30 P.M. at 7447 W. Lawrence Ave., Harwood Heights, IL 60706.

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

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes (via phone), Chief Blondell; 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 Skyba to suspend the rules to permit visitors to be recognized. The Board retains the right to refuse 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.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Avino and seconded by Trustee Kolaski approve the following minutes:

- 1- Adopt the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on September 14, 2020.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES:7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
September 30, 2020

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	137,794.54
Wintrust -MM #27766	1,264,115.33
Wintrust- Checking #9771	9,647.06
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	606,429.87
Wintrust- Medical #0599	4,231.12

Wintrust- Donation #4129	653.68
Wintrust- FSA #0713	1,350.63
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$2,024,222.23</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (3.00%, 02/10/21)	688,936.87
Belmont Bank (3.00% 01/21/21)	573,440.19
Belmont Bank (2.50% 01/19/21)	<u>400,490.99</u>
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$1,662,868.05</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$3,687,090.28</u>

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the September's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$404,408.47 and the Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for September 2020.

Trustee Avino stated there was standard activity. Trustee Skyba asked when a CD is due, Trustee Avino explained that there are CDs maturing in January.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

Chief stated that all Trustees have received a written report.

The flu shot program was an amazing success. Many flu vaccines were administered, and the average wait time was 3 minutes. We have only seen and heard positive comments. Pole Vision did a story on it and that will be shared with the Trustees. Thank You letters have been sent out. Resurrection hospital was able to acquire a couple of hundred shots so that we would not have to turn anyone away. Currently, we have administered 655 vaccines. Lutheran General Hospital was very helpful with getting IDPH to allow paramedics to administer the vaccines, this is the first time in many years that the paramedics were able to do this. There was also a newspaper article and pictures of the event. When the COVID-19 vaccine comes, we will be ready to administer it.

There have been updates being completed around the firehouse. Pictures have been added to your devices to view. First is the rough out where the Extractor, to wash fire gear, was installed. This will help reduce the cancer risk firefighters face. Mark Blondell and Lt. Larry Curran did the work to complete this. There are also pictures showing the bathroom and living quarter updates. Bunk room with have individual sleeping areas, the walls are low due to sprinklers.

Deputy Chief Erlewein took pictures of the flu shot event. Harwood Heights Police and Village Works were a huge help. Norridge also had police officers attend to help with traffic. Commander Lymberis rearranged his schedule to work on the third day since he knew how things were run. Village of Norridge Public Works borrowed signs, cones, etc. to direct cars to the right place. We could not have done this without the help of both Villages.

Mayor Arlene Jezierny is sick with COVID- 19, we are thinking of her.

On Friday, Chief was contacted by Representative LaPointe's office, they would like to come out this Thursday to do a presentation regarding the \$150,000 grant given by herself and Senator Martwick. \$50,000 is to be used for internal communications. We hope to put \$100,000 towards a ladder truck.

Regarding call volume, we are currently about 100 behind where we were last year. Last year was the District's busiest year on record.

GEMT funds have been received, the District is legally obligated to pay 50% of what is received to the State of Illinois. We need to pay \$11,747 to the State for 4th quarter of 2019 monies received. The deadline is fast approaching, we will have the board ratify the payment in November.

Audit field work is being completed this week; it is all being performed remotely. This is our last year with Sikich before we need to go out to bid.

Discussion of TVs that will be added to the board room so residents can view packet information, pictures, videos, etc.

Thank you to the Building & Equipment Committee for meeting and talking about the Truck. It was agreed to proceed with a Mid Mount Ariel. There are advantages over the other ladder trucks, it is lower, there is no overhang, weighs less (10 thousand pounds lighter), can move by building 20% below grade. The cost is about \$1.4 million, and we can get financing through Pierce, who offers a 40-thousand-dollar cash credit. Pierce has also agreed to a \$34,000 decrease due to the rusting of our current engine.

Will meet with the Finance Committee to discuss different finance options. If we wait, the Ariel will increase 3%. The current Truck is leaking fluids badly and is in poor shape.

If we were to put a couple hundred thousand down and finance 1.2 million, we are looking at about \$14,000 which is close to the amount we were paying for the loan we just paid off.

Trustee Cichon asked what the lead time is? Chief stated that they are told about a year.

Chief explained that the 2% Fund plans to pay for some of the items needed to outfit the Ariel.

Discussion. Trustee Evans discussed the truck radius, Chief explained that it is 5 ½ feet shorter. Lt.

Curran explained how they will now be able to drive this under the HIP parking garage.

Chief explained that the bidding process is not necessary because Pierce is part of a Co-op.

Would like to have it on the next agenda with the way to finance it.

Discussion

Discussed Lt Davila and how he is working on our vehicles everyday to try and save money.

Deputy Chief Erlewein explained how he is looking for dealerships to work on the equipment versus sending it to higher priced Fire Engine repair shops.

He also stated how there is a 26 second setup with 1 person with this model of Ariel Tower.

Discussion on different abilities of the new truck versus what we currently have and the difference between a Stick and an Ariel Tower.

Pierce is willing to pay \$25,000 for our current Truck, we could possibly get \$50,000 to sell private.

The cost to outfit with new equipment will be determined soon. 2% Fund is willing to help with the costs, many items will be reused from the current truck. We will also save in maintenance costs.

Building & Equipment Committee has been kept in the loop.
Crews take great care of the equipment.

Motion by Trustee Rybak seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the Chief's report for September 2020.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Cichon states he was very happy with the flu shot event; he feels it went smooth. Everyone needs to stay vigilant, the Trustees are pulling for everyone, "we are there with you".

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Avino stated they have a full slate and will figure it out as soon as possible.

Building and Equipment Committee- Trustee Evans stated they met last week. Chief explained everything and they agree a new Truck is needed and with putting the Truck on the agenda.

Discussion on face shields, Board feels they do not need one.

Trustee Skyba asked about the fence next store. Chief stated that we asked for no fence to make it easier to see when exiting. They also had the charity box removed because lone of sight is more important. We have a great relationship with the gas station.

Policy & Strategic Planning Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated that he hopes the USB drive was helpful. We will have a meeting soon. Discussed harassment training. Thank you for everyone who helped with on the Flu Shots.

Community Relations Committee-Trustee Santoro stated that she wanted to thank the Chief and Deputy Chief. Many friends came for a flu shot and it went smooth. She is happy to be on the board.

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Skyba stated that there is nothing to report.

Trustee Rybak stated that a member in her family had a 911 call to their house, and it went very well.

Discussion on Knox boxes so there is no need to force entry.

She stated that the newsletters came out for the Village of Norridge after the event flu shot event. Chief explained that we were aware of that and we will continue to give shots to residents that call until we run out.

Trustee Rybak said maybe Community Relations can consider having Santa drive around? Discussion.

Chief explained the Virtual Safety Town that is going to be filmed at the fire station.

Chief feels the Flu Shot Robo calls that went out to the residents by the Villages went well.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Avino and seconded by Trustee Santoro to adopt and approve Ordinance #20-3, an Ordinance Amending the Imposition and Collection of Emergency Ambulance User Fees.

Chief explained that the cost analysis was completed for GEMT and this is what it costs to complete an ambulance call. New rate is \$2,514 for all calls as well as \$75 for oxygen and \$25 per mile.

Trustee Rybak stated that residents paying for their deductibles should be revisited.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to adopt and approve Resolution #20-4, a Resolution authorizing entry into an Intergovernmental Agreement and Subrecipient Agreement for the Coronavirus Relief Fund with Cook County.

We are expected to receive \$48,500.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda

- Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the consent agenda:
- approve the payment of \$29,521.70 to the 2% Foreign Fire Insurance Board.
- ratify the payment to MacQueen Emergency in the amount of \$21,953.33 for the preventative maintenance and repairs to Engine 101.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Avino and seconded by Trustee Skyba to go into Closed Session Pursuant to Section (2)(c)(1) of the Open Meeting Act (to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee of the public body).

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro-Cotton; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Went into Closed Session at 8:00pm

Returned from Closed Session at 8:28pm

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro-Cotton; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Chief Blondell; yes.

Motion by Trustee Avino and seconded by Trustee Skyba to approve Deputy Chief Claude Erlewein's contract, effective November 1, 2020.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Avino; yes,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro-Cotton; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Santoro to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Joanne Rybak
Secretary

Andrew Cichon
President