MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
VIA Zoom
Meeting ID 820 8990 7698
Password 238120

The Board of Trustees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, Cook County, Illinois convened via Zoom on the 9th day of November 2020 at 6:35 P.M.

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, Chief Blondell; yes.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE (Public Participation)
A motion was made by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Avino 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 Skyba and seconded by Trustee Kolaski approve the following minutes:

1- Approve the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on October 19, 2020.
2- Approve and keep closed the October 19, 2020 Closed Session Meeting Minutes.

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)
October 31, 2020

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:
Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492  146,823.68
Wintrust -MM #27766  1,153,148.74
Wintrust- Checking #9771  9,013.79
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671  668,084.76
Wintrust- Medical #0599  3,042.62
Wintrust- Donation #4129  653.73
Wintrust- FSA #0713  368.67
Total checking and money market accounts $1,981,135.99

**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)  402,991.41
Total certificates of deposit $1,665,368.47
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit $3,646,504.47

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Cichon to approve the October’s accounts payable expenditures in the amount of $420,381.06 and the Treasurer’s Report as presented from the Financial Statements for October 2020.

Trustee Avino stated there was standard activity. The Finance Committee had a meeting and agrees with the Building and Equipment Committee to recommend the purchase a ladder truck. Trustee Skyba stated that the financing should be explained to the whole board. Trustee Avino stated that the next board meeting will be just for that.

Trustee Kolaski asked if we are putting the cart before the horse. The Chief explained that the cost of the apparatus will increase about 4% after December. We have also spoken with the accountant and he is confident that we can afford this.

Trustee Skyba asked if the District cashed in a CD. Chief explained that the last CD cashed was a couple months ago to payoff the loan. Discussion about outstanding CDs.

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.

Chief stated that this meeting was changed to a Zoom meeting at the last minute due to the increase of Covid-19 calls and our personnel potentially being exposed. The building is back on lockdown to all non-essential people. Chief is at the building and would have the ability to set up a citizen if they came tonight to attend the meeting, complying with OMA. He hoped to have the meeting in person, the firefighters just rearranged the board room, and he would like them to see it. This is also an important meeting and would be nice to have an in-person discussion.

There is a significant increase in cases of illness in the hospital. Chief stated that the crews have been busy with Covid-19 calls and that the Chief went on a couple of calls as well. The Governor has moved us to Phase 3 mitigations and it is possible we will end up at Phase 2. There are some logistical issues with the vaccine, but we will stay on top of it.
Last meeting there was discussion on the truck, currently 104 is failing and falling apart. We do not want to throw good money into it. Hoping with all the discussions that we can alleviate any concerns purchasing a new one.

Last month, Trustee Skyba wanted to know about possibly sharing cost of apparatus repairs. Deputy Chief Erlewein contacted 2 departments that have mechanics on staff, and they are not interested due to the liability.

Trustee Rybak stated that there will be a separate motion next meeting for the financing of the truck. Chief stated that there may be a special meeting to approve the financing.

Trustee Kolaski asked about the equipment that go automatic aid and are returned. Chief explained that this is part of the automatic aid agreement and that towns responding to us experience the same wear and tear on their equipment.

Trustee Skyba asked, “hypothetically, what happens if we cannot live up to Automatic Aid Agreement”? Chief explained that if something currently happens the Shift Commander will speak to their officers and determine a new response. If we do not replace the truck, other towns will withdraw from our Automatic Aid Agreements. MABAS has you send in your plans which describes the level of response and approves plans. ISO rating would also take a hit.

Trustee Skyba also asked why we respond with a truck and not an engine. Chief explained the response cards dictate what we respond with.

Chief stated that the truck carries a lot of equipment for our town and is not just for Automatic Aid. Trustee Skyba agreed that a truck is needed for the long haul.

Trustee Evans asked if there is a contingency plan if personnel all get sick. Chief explained that there are plans in place, would stop Automatic Aid, there are side agreements to be fully manned. If down one shift, they would have to force shifts to work 36 hours. Worst case, there are plans in place with IDPH to be able to call back recently retired personnel to do less physical work and we would work with towns to expand coverage areas.

Trustee Evans asked about cleaning of quarters. Chief explained that we are following CDC and IDPH standards. The Commanders and Deputy Chief have the employees doing above the standards for cleaning.

Chief explained that no guests are allowed at the hospitals, there is no one allowed in waiting room either.

Motion by Trustee Rybak seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the Chief’s report for October 2020. AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President’s Report: Trustee Cichon stated that the truck is a big-ticket item. He hopes the men and woman are staying safe, everyone is doing a great job and to stay diligent.
Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Avino stated that at the last meeting there was extensive talk about the purchase of the truck. There were multiple finance options that are within our means. A lot of time has been spent discussing the truck purchase.

Building and Equipment Committee- Trustee Evans stated that we know what we are voting on.

Policy & Strategic Planning Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated that he has nothing to report. Please let him know if anyone has any problems with their USB.

Community Relations Committee-Trustee Santoro stated there is nothing to report. She hopes everyone is staying safe.

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Skyba stated that there is nothing to report. Chief stated that at the last Pension meeting they approved their levy amounts.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the purchase of a 2021 Pierce Velocity 100’ Mid-Mount Tower from Pierce Manufacturing, part of the HGAC Buy Co-op. Cost not to exceed 1.4 million dollars including a Performance Bond. Financing will be through PNC.

Discussion on PNC. Chief stated that other banks were not as receptive, and PNC has a partnership with Pierce.

Explain that a performance bond must be purchased, and Attorney Flaherty stated that we could do it through Pierce.

Chief Blondell discussed the cost breakdown of the truck.

Video was shown created by Pierce of the truck and the capabilities it has.

Chief explained that there is a team of firefighters from Norwood Park that have reviewed the options and specs of the truck.

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 Avino to approve the client based IGA with Municipal Consolidated Dispatch for three years beginning December 1, 2020.

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Chief explained and that Attorney Flaherty reviewed the IGA to make sure all was in order.
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

We will need to have Trustee Cichon and Trustee Rybak to sign the IGA. There are also signature cards that at some point will be to be signed. Pictures have been canceled for now.

Consent Agenda
Motion by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the consent agenda:
- approve the minutes of the Building & Equipment Committee held on October 13, 2020.
- approve minutes of the Finance Committee held on October 27, 2020.
- ratify the payment in the amount of $11,747.49 to Illinois Healthcare and Family Services Emergency Transport Services (50% of GEMT revenues for 4th quarter of 2019).

Chief explained what GEMT is.

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 adjourn the meeting.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

_________________________________________   ________________
Joanne Rybak                        Andrew Cichon
Secretary                           President