

**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 8th day of November 2021 at 6:30 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 Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; absent,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Evans; yes, 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 Skyba and seconded by Trustee Evans 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.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Swearing in of Trustee Louis Mezzano.

Went into recess at 6:34pm. Returned from recess at 6:48pm.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; absent,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Evans; yes
Trustee Mezzano; yes, Chief Blondell; yes.

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Evans approve the following minutes:

- 1- Approve the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on October 18, 2021.
- 2- Approve and keep closed the October 18, 2021, Closed Session Meeting Minutes (1).
- 3- Approve and keep closed the October 18, 2021, Closed Session Meeting Minutes (2).

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; absent,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Evans; yes,
Trustee Mezzano; abstain.

AYES: 5 ABSTAIN: 1 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

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

The call volume for Norwood is the highest ever. Recently, we had an ambulance coming to help us from Des Plaines because we exhausted all nearby ambulances.

We recently had a fire in Rosemont and currently the firefighters are on a fire scene.

The hospital has been very busy which is increasing our transfer times.

Discussion on ICU beds and Covid positive patients are 96% unvaccinated.

We had a firefighter that was Covid positive and has returned to work after their 10 days of quarantine.

Firefighter Henmueller has returned to work post Workers Compensation injury.

PSI is struggling to keep paramedics (this is a statewide issue). Norwood Park has been covered.

Cyndi Stec applied for another FEMA grant and was notified that we will be receiving an additional \$30,000+.

We have received about 4 million in tax revenue, more is still expected.

Trustee Skyba asked if the department goes to job fairs or is reaching out to the high school or Triton? Chief Blondell explained that this would not have a direct effect with them coming to Norwood Park. There needs to be a way that when we have a good medic, we can keep them. Years ago, you would have to fight for a job, now they are being recruited out of paramedic school. We are lucky that medics have liked riding here and then have come to work here. Discussion.

Motion by Trustee Santoro seconded by Trustee Skyba to approve the Chief's report for October 2021. AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Cichon stated he is pleased that the trustee seat is filled and is looking forward to working together.

Congratulations to the paramedics that delivered the baby. Discussion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
October 31, 2021

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	309,932.53
Wintrust -MM #2776	1,593,767.60
Wintrust- Checking #9771	5,919.75
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	686,240.78
Wintrust- Medical #0599	564.29
Wintrust- Donation #4129	919.15

Wintrust- FSA #0713	2,093.38
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$2,599,437.48</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (0.45%, 02/10/22)	699,331.01
Belmont Bank (0.45% 01/21/22)	582,091.71
Belmont Bank (0.45% 01/19/22)	<u>406,870.79</u>
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$1,688,293.51</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$4,287,730.99</u>

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve the October’s accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$510,488.94 and the Treasurer’s Report as presented from the Financial Statements for October 2021.

Trustee Evans stated that the expenditures were about \$100,000 more than usual and went over the unusual expenses.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; yes, Trustee Kolaski; absent,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Evans; yes,
Trustee Mezzano; abstain.

AYES: 5 ABSTAIN: 1 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Evans stated they had a meeting and will discuss the Deputy Chief’s contract in Closed Session.

Building and Equipment Committee-Trustee Mezzano stated that he would like to sit down with the Chief and discuss what is needed. Chief explained that this year has been an extraordinary year with large apparatus. Discussion on selling Truck 104.

Policy & Strategic Planning Committee- Trustee Kolaski not present.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated there is nothing to report. Trustee Skyba stated that he would like to see issue #2 of the comic book that was done years ago. He feels it could be about the pandemic. Chief explained that the first comic book was done through a grant that Commander Koy received for around \$85,000 and with GI Joe/Mattel. Discussion.

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Skyba stated there was nothing to report. Trustee Evans stated that there was a meeting on November 2nd, Lauterbach and Amen were there to explain the actuary. Discussion.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Trustee Cichon nominated Trustee Rybak for Secretary of the Board of Trustees. No other nominations.

Motion by Trustee Evans and seconded by Trustee Santoro to elect Trustee Rybak as Secretary of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District Board of Trustees for a two-year term.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Skyba nominated Trustee Cichon for President of the Board of Trustees. No other nominations.

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Santoro to elect Trustee Cichon as President of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District Board of Trustees for a two-year term.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Skyba nominated Trustee Evans for Treasurer of the Board of Trustees. No other nominations.

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Santoro to elect Trustee Evans as Treasurer of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District Board of Trustees for a two-year term.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Skyba and seconded by Trustee Evans to adopt and approve Resolution #21-6, a Resolution confirming and declaring the election of District President Cichon, Secretary Rybak, and Treasurer Evans for the two-year term, commencing November 8, 2021.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Skyba left the meeting at 7:12pm.

Motion by Trustee Evans and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the consent agenda:

- Approve minutes of the Finance Committee held on October 28, 2021.
- Ratify the payment in the amount of \$11,223.47 to Legacy for preventative maintenance on Engine 102.

- Ratify the payment in the amount of \$5,506.21 to Legacy for Truck 104 brakes and Engine 102 large diameter discharge.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Evans to go into Closed Session Pursuant 5 ILCS Section (2)(c)(1) to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body.

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Went into Closed Session at 7:14pm.

Returned from Closed Session at 7:44pm, no decision made, no votes taken.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Kolaski; absent,
Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Evans; yes
Trustee Mezzano; yes, Chief Blondell; yes.

Motion by Trustee Evans and seconded by Trustee Rybak to approve Deputy Chief Claude Erlewein' s contract, effective November 1, 2021.

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Joanne Rybak
Secretary

Andrew Cichon
President