

**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 12th day of June 2023 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 Kolaski; yes, Trustee Cichon; yes,
Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; 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 Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Mezzano 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: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

- 1- Approve the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on May 15, 2023.
- 2- Approve and keep closed the May 15, 2023, Board of Trustees' Closed Session Meeting Minutes.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

Chief stated he hopes all is well. Chief did not have a written report this month.

May was another busy month.

There have been equipment issues. The Finance Committee met and discussed the purchase of an Engine. Discussion.

The Building and Equipment Committee met today.

Engine 101 is our frontline engine, and it is 11 years old, it is currently taking 3-years to get one. Preventative Maintenance is starting to add up in cost.

There has been a committee of firefighters put together to start looking at options.

Representatives from different manufacturers are meeting with this committee and giving their pitch. When they know what direction they want to go in, they will talk to the Building and Equipment Committee.

Firefighter Hernandez because a paramedic as of today.

Motion by Trustee Santoro seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the Chief's report for May 2023.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Cichon stated that he will announce the committee appointments later in the meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
May 31, 2023

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	553,209.51
Wintrust -MM #2776	1,733,798.42
Wintrust- Checking #9771	9,480.79
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	1,474,918.85
Wintrust- Medical #0599	9,548.99
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,112.24
Wintrust- FSA #0713	11,621.30
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$3,793,690.10</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (0.60%, 02/10/24)	707,378.52
Belmont Bank (2.35% 07/21/23)	594,625.01
Belmont Bank (0.50% 01/19/24)	414,079.53
Total certificates of deposit	<u>1,716,083.06</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$5,509,773.16</u>

Motion by Trustee Mezzano and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve May's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$587,879.84 and the Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for May 2023.

Trustee Evans explained the large expenses this month.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Cichon; yes,
Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes, Trustee Massaro; yes.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Evans stated we will need to have a meeting to discuss the final budget.

Building and Equipment Committee-Trustee Mezzano stated that Engine 101 is 11 years old, and a new engine is taking 3 years to complete. The cost is about one million dollars. The District is spending a few thousand dollars a month on maintenance. This will go out for bid.

On the budget is to purchase a new squad through a Co-Op. The Deputy Chief's squad is 8 years old. The Fire Marshal is a paramedic and responding to calls. He will get the D/C's squad. We are not going to spend more than \$70,000.

The power stretchers continue to break down, cost thousands to repair, and could be a liability. The new Stryker power cots are next generation (we are generations behind on the current automation). It would be about \$176,000 to replace the whole fleet. Discussion. Trustee Mezzano stated that he will talk to the Norwood Park Township Board to see if they can help towards this.

The parking lot needs to have the asphalt replaced. We may need to have it cored to find out how deep the asphalt will need to be. This will have to go out for bid.

Policy & Strategic Planning Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated there is nothing to report.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated that they will have a meeting next month at 5:30pm before the board meeting to discuss Flu Shots, Open House, and other Public Education events.

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

Old Business:

None.

New Business

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Evans to adopt and approve Ordinance #23-4, an Ordinance approving the Tentative Budget and Appropriation for 2023-2024.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Mezzano and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the life insurance renewal with The Standard, effective July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Rybak to hire the next candidate from the eligibility list, per the recommendation of the Norwood Park Fire Board of Commissioners contingent upon the passing of all appropriate testing.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Evans to approve adNet for IT Managed Services at a cost of \$2,200 per month including Office Suite.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the committee appointments as presented by the President.

Finance Committee

Trustee Evans- Chair
Trustee Cichon
Trustee Rybak

Community Relations Committee

Trustee Santoro- Chair
Trustee Rybak
Trustee Mezzano

Policy & Strategic

Planning Committee

Trustee Kolaski- Chair
Trustee Mezzano
Trustee Massaro

Building & Equipment Committee

Trustee Mezzano- Chair
Trustee Santoro
Trustee Kolaski

Pension Fund Board Member
& Commissioner Oversight

Trustee Massaro- Chair

Trustee Evans

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Cichon; yes,
Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes, Trustee Massaro; yes.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve an additional \$20,000 for in-house alerting receivers, monitors, and installation.

Chief explained that initially there was \$135,000, this will bring the total cost to \$155,000 of which \$140,000 is from grants.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Cichon; yes,
Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes, Trustee Massaro; yes.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda

Motion by Trustee Evans and seconded by Trustee Cichon to approve the following:

- Ratify the payment to Health Endeavors in the amount of \$8,743.00 for department physicals.
- Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on May 11, 2023.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Cichon; yes,
Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes, Trustee Massaro; yes.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Cichon; yes,
Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes,
Trustee Evans; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes, Trustee Massaro; yes.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

A resident stood and identified herself as a house fire victim. She approached the board and chief dumping children's toys on the table.

The resident spoke in an aggressive tone for approximately ten minutes lecturing about her disappointment in the fire department. The resident's main complaints are as follows:

- How could it take 23 minutes for the fire department to respond after the first 911 call?

- How was Park Ridge the first unit on the scene?
- How does a fire move from the garage to the deck to the house in 20 minutes?
- Firefighters taking photos.

Chief stated that he cannot respond without looking into the event but will be happy to meet with her after he has a chance to gather the facts.

Went into Closed Session at 6:56pm,

Returned from Closed Session at 7:31pm, no decisions made, no votes taken.

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

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to adopt and approve Ordinance #23-3, an Ordinance adopting and implementing an updated schedule of salaries and benefits for civilian employees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Cichon; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes, Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Evans; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes, Trustee Massaro; yes.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion to adopt and approve Resolution #23-2, a Resolution relating to the terms of employment for the position of Administrative Assistant to the Chief of the Fire Department was tabled.

Trustee Evans stated that she will be resigning from the board after the July meeting because she is moving out of the District.

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to adjourn the meeting.
AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.

Joanne Rybak
Secretary

Andrew Cichon
President

