

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY 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 11th day of September 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 Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; absent, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Chief Blondell; yes.

The pledge was said at the start of the meeting.

Moment of silence in remembrance of 9/11.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE (Public Participation)

A motion was made by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Santoro 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: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

- 1- Approve the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on August 14, 2023.
- 2- Approve and keep closed the August 14, 2023, Board of Trustees' Closed Session Meeting Minutes.

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

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

Congratulations to everyone that has new rolls on the board and congratulations to Trustee Wegrecki for being appointed to the board.

August set another record with 423 calls which is the highest call volume yet. May-July were very busy months in the history of Norwood Park, this is now not a trend, but the norm.

Personnel- We hope to hire the additional firefighter/paramedics in the spring due to limited availability in paramedic schools. Most on the remaining list do not have paramedic or firefighter certifications. We are currently processing Kamil Kieras who just graduated paramedic school and passed the national test. He is polish speaking and will be a great asset to the department.

Firefighter Pappas is currently in paramedic school at ALGH.

Equipment- the frontline engines have been down a great deal of time. We have been using the Truck as frontline which is not ideal. Commander Davila has been working hard to try and get the engines fixed.

We need a fire engine, the committee is going to see a few and are going to narrow it down. Once that is done, we will go out for bids. We will keep the trustees posted. The Building and Equipment Committee will hear the options and the Finance Committee will have to decide, with the help of our accountant, how to finance this.

Trustee Rybak stated that the committees will remain the same for now, except for Trustee Santoro also being on the Finance Committee.

Motion by Trustee Santoro seconded by Trustee Wegrecki to approve the Chief's report for September 2023.

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	603,399.55
Wintrust -MM #2776	797,584.40
Wintrust- Checking #9771	12,857.57
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	1,854,388.37
Wintrust- Medical #0599	10,856.42
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,127.22
Wintrust- FSA #0713	9,056.01
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	10,000.00

Total checking and money market accounts \$3,299,269.54

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (4.75%, 02/10/24)	715,701.48
Belmont Bank (4.90% 07/21/24)	598,079.21
Belmont Bank (4.75% 01/19/24)	418,898.60
Total certificates of deposit	<u>1,732,679.29</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$5,031,948.83</u>

Motion by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to approve August accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$508,699.61 and the Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for August 2023.

Trustee Santoro explained the revenues and expenses and how the expenses were below our 6-month average.

Chief explained that in November the MCD contract will be up. Per his discussions with Ron Gross, it should be around 4%. This will be on the agenda next month.

Field work for the audit will be coming up in a couple of weeks. The Finance Committee will have to meet once the audit is completed. Chief and Cyndi will complete the MD&A as they have in years past.

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Building and Equipment Committee-Trustee Mezzano stated there is nothing to report.

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

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated that today they sent tattoos and popup cardboard fire engines to the Harlem Irving Plaza for Safety Town which is October 10th-20th.

Flu Shot Drive Thru is October 6th from 1-7pm.

Open House is October 7th from noon-3pm

Homebound Flu Shots are October 11th by appointment.

This Wednesday is the health fair at Harwood Heights Community Center with Senior Assistance Center.

Saturday is Touch-A-Truck in Norridge.

Boot Day to raise funds for burn camp is this Friday and next Friday.

October 1st is Eisenhower's 50th Anniversary event.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of the 75th Anniversary Parade in Norridge.

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Massaro was not present. The commissioners meeting was canceled.

Old Business:

New Business

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to accept Chief Blondell's letter of commendation for Lieutenant Lawrence Curran.

Chief stated that commendations are not often done. A few years ago, he asked Lieutenant Curran to take on the communication equipment that was 30 years old. This involved multiple agencies and a great deal of time. We now have a state-of-the-art communication system that other departments come to see. Discussion. During all of this he completed his bachelor's in public safety administration. Discussion.

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the payout of sick time, vacation time, and personal days to Firefighter Luke Solatka in the amount of \$1,581.43.

Total Vacation/Personal Time \$350.71

Total Sick Time \$1,230.72

Total payout for all days \$1,581.43.

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Consent Agenda

Motion by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to approve the following:

- the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held on August 8, 2023.
- the minutes from the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency Act Meeting held on August 14, 2023.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to adjourn the meeting.
AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 6:56pm.

Louis Mezzano
Secretary

Joanne Rybak
President