

**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 16th day of October 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.

Swearing in of Firefighter Kamil Kieras.

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Wegrecki to go into recess.
AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Went into recess at 6:34pm

Returned from recess at 6:53pm

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

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

Trustee Rybak said that the personnel did a great job at the Open House and Flu Shots. Thank you.

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

1- Approve the Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on September 11, 2023.

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.

Chief Blondell stated how grateful he was to all the employees for all their hard work at the Open House and the Flu Shot Drive Thru.

Also, for all that attended retired Chief Dennis Stefanowicz's service. The Stefanowicz family was such a large part of the fire department, his brother Jack was the Chief prior to him, and their father Henry was part of the District when it first began. The contributions they have made are going to last eternally and their memories will be here forever.

Call volume is 7-8% higher than last year's record year. The crews are doing a great job.

The audit field work will begin soon, once that is completed the Chief and Cyndi will complete the MD&A. Deputy Chief Peistrup handles the Pension Audit.

The Engine Committee has done a great job meeting with multiple companies and shopping around. Seagrave was unanimously choice; they will present to the Building and Equipment Committee. They should have the specs completed in the next couple of weeks and we will receive a proposal. We are expecting it to be around \$1.1 million. We will discuss the finance options with our accountants from Lauterbach and Amen.

We are having some issues trying to purchase a Squad. There are no more Co-Ops so after speaking to the attorney he stated that we will need to invoke the emergency exception because there is no way to go out for bid. The board will need to approve this by a 2/3 majority. Deputy Chief Peistrup is searching for a vehicle.

Regarding the parking lot, we may need to get core samples to see how much asphalt will be needed. We will need to prepare an RFP. Discussion.

Norwood Park and 8 other departments are part of a \$1.9 million grant for mobile and portable radios. Our portion is \$236,000 and we will need to contribute \$21,000. The current Broadview Chief completed the grant. We will need to approve an MOU and accept the agreement. The attorney will review.

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Rybak stated that they have a Closed Session on the agenda to discuss who will fill the vacancy on the board. Discussion on committees. The Chief stated that they can do committee of the whole and not individual committee regarding the engine and parking lot. Discussion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
September 30, 2023

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	518,647.98
Wintrust -MM #2776	615,159.55
Wintrust- Checking #9771	12,146.76
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	1,726,388.15
Wintrust- Medical #0599	10,516.42
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,132.16
Wintrust- FSA #0713	8,819.29
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	9,962.65
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$ 3,002,772.96</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (4.75%, 02/10/24)	724,122.36
Belmont Bank (4.90% 07/21/24)	598,079.21
Belmont Bank (4.75% 01/19/24)	418,898.60
Total certificates of deposit	
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$ 1,741,100.17</u>

Motion by Trustee Mezzano and seconded by Trustee Wegrecki to approve September accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$456,378.26 and the Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for September 2023.

Trustee Santoro explained the tax bills are going out November 1st. Payables this month were lower.

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:

Finance Committee- Trustee Santoro stated that there needs to be a meeting, but it will be a meeting of the whole board.

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

Policy & Strategic Planning Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated the Chief is going to meet with the Union President and create a policy for celebrations and bereavements. Discussion.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated she wanted to thank everyone for the great Open House. The firefighters/paramedics are going to be part of the following if calls allow:

October 20th- Pennoyer School for Halloween Trunk or Treat

October 21st- Norridge Park for Fall Fest

October 31st- Parade at Leigh School for Halloween

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Massaro was not present. Deputy Chief Peistrup stated that June 30 ended our fiscal year. We have about 20 million in investments and are 50% funded, the goal is 90% funded. There are a couple of death claims which should pay out approximately \$500,000.

Next meeting is November 14th at 6:30pm.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Wegrecki to approve the IGA with Municipal Consolidated Dispatch (MCD) for three years beginning December 1, 2023.

12/01/2023-11/30/2024 \$118,178.09

12/01/2024-11/30/2025 \$123,496.10

12/01/2025-11/30/2026 \$129,053.42

Chief explained that it is a 4%, 4.5%, 4.5% increase. Call Volume has increased 21%. 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

Consent Agenda

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

- Ratify the payment to JX Enterprises, Inc in the amount of \$5,942.11 for repairs to Engine 101.

- Ratify the payment to Target Solutions Learning LLC in the amount of \$7,971.25 for Vector Check It, Career tracking, and Maintenance.
- Ratify the payment to Wex Bank in the amount of \$5,176.92 for fuel.

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 go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 5 ILCS 120-2(c)(3) of the Open Meetings Act Selection of a person to fill a public office.

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

Went into Closed Session at 7:20pm

Returned from Closed Session at 7:48pm.

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

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

AYES: 5 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Louis Mezzano
Secretary

Joanne Rybak
President