

**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 8th day of April 2024, 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; absent,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; 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 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: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

- 1- Approve the Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on February 12, 2024.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

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

Chief stated the call volume is up 3% from this time last year.

The application period for entry level firefighter is closed and we have 26 applicants that are all in paramedic school or are already paramedics.

HB3459 passed, it is regarding funds being approved for large capital projects and tax objections.

Trustee Rybak asked if HB2216 passed regarding lift assists.

Chief Blondell appointed paramedic Zully Delia as patient advocate. She will help with finding solutions when there is a need. Aging Care approached and they are a Cook County non-profit, together we can help our residents receive better healthcare.

Met with trustee Wegrecki regarding the motion to pay for the steel doors, there are two and we needed an immediate repair because it was a security risk, the doors would not close.

Discussed with Trustee Rybak the Request for Bid for Asphalt/Concrete, it was reviewed by our attorney.

Trustee Massaro asked about our residents that use the ambulance service often for patient assists, discussion on cost.

Motion by Trustee Santoro seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the Chief's report for March 2024.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Rybak stated Resurrection Hospital's new Emergency Room should be open by the end of May.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
February 29, 2024

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	140,373.61
Wintrust -MM #2776	2,188,019.45
Wintrust- Checking #9771	97,969.27
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	1,928,350.64
Wintrust- Medical #0599	6,597.83
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,158.32
Wintrust- FSA #0713	21,046.59
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	9,783.25
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$4,393,298.96</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (5.15%, 02/10/25)	1,000,000.00
Belmont Bank (4.90% 07/21/24)	612,971.29
Belmont Bank (5.15% 01/19/25)	1,000,000.00
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$2,612,971.29</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$7,006,270.25</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
March 31, 2024

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	156,296.14
Wintrust -MM #2776	2,053,497.39
Wintrust- Checking #9771	67,479.85
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	2,053,497.39
Wintrust- Medical #0599	12,729.17
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,163.29
Wintrust- FSA #0713	17,729.16
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	9,753.25
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$6,326,087.39</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (5.15%, 02/10/25)	1,000,000.00
Belmont Bank (4.90% 07/21/24)	612,971.29
Belmont Bank (5.15% 01/19/25)	1,000,000.00
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$2,612,971.29</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$8,939,058.68</u>

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Palazzo to approve the following:

- February's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$453,479.03.
- The Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for February 2024.
- March's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$590,181.34.
- The Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for March 2024.

Trustee Santoro stated the increased expense in March was for the annual lease payment for Tower 103 for about \$130,000.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Santoro stated they will be meeting with the Union Representatives regarding the CBA. There will need to be a Closed Session on the agenda next month.

Building and Equipment Committee-Trustee Wegrecki stated that on the agenda is a motion to purchase a new ambulance. We are being told it will take 2-years to complete. Two of our ambulances were reboxed in 2018. Discussion. Next year we may need to order another ambulance.

The AIG grant amount has increased, there are 8 departments all together. Two years ago, we were told our cost would be \$29,000, the cost has increased to \$121,000. We will be responsible to pay for 30%. Chief stated that communication is vital and a safety issue. It will be purchased through Cook County.

Blinds are on the agenda.

Apparatus floors will be repaired by Matrix at a cost of \$2,500, board approval is not needed.

Discussion on the Day Room remodel.

Policy Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated they will schedule a time to meet.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated on April 20th for Kindness Day we will have some personnel at Mariano's teaching CPR and handing out Vial for Life.

Trustee Wegrecki is reporting for Trustee Mezzano about the Battle of the Badges. It will be September 7th from 1pm to about 6 or 7pm. There will be face painters, bounce house, food, and beer truck. Discussion about tug of war. Softball game will begin at 4pm. Additional events may be added. They wanted to thank the Fire and Police Union for their contributions.

Pension Fund Member- Trustee Massaro stated there was a meeting. Discussed Commander Koy's retirement and approved the annual raises. The Pension Fund has \$22,000,000 currently.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Wegrecki to approve the purchase of a 2025 Ford E450 Chassis on a custom Horton Conversion Ambulance at a cost not to exceed \$350,000 through Foster Coach Sales and part of the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative (SPC).

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the reappointment of Sikich LLP as independent auditors for the Norwood Park Fire Protection District.

	<u>June 30, 2024</u>	<u>June 30, 2025</u>	<u>June 30, 2026</u>
District Audit	\$9,700	\$10,190	\$10,700
Pension Audit	\$4,200	\$4,450	\$4,680
Implementation of GASB S101	\$500		
Total Base Proposal	\$14,400	\$14,640	\$15,380

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Wegrecki and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to amend the 2022 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant District Obligation amount to a cost not to exceed \$125,000.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Palazzo and seconded by Trustee Rybak to approve the purchase and installation of window blinds for the entire building at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 from ViewRite Installations.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the Request for Bid for concrete and asphalt work at the Norwood Park Fire Protection District.

Bid Packet amended to add private locate to be part of proposal and provided by the GC.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Wegrecki and seconded by Trustee Palazzo to approve the consent agenda:

- Approve the minutes of the Decennial Efficiency Act Meeting held on February 12, 2024.
- Approve the payment to Midland Masonry Inc. in the amount of \$8,200 for the replacement of two metal doors and frames.
- Ratify the following payment:
 - American Express in the amount of \$5,373.54 for 2 months of IT, trustee training, outdoor lights, and tires.
 - MABAS Division 20 in the amount of \$7,000 for dues.
 - The Jean Ross Company in the amount of \$5,250.00 for the installation of power load stretchers.
 - Chase Card Services in the amount of \$5,021.19 for iPad case, tires, steering/suspension, cooling system, seat belt cutters, Blue line advertisement.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.

Louis Mezzano
Secretary

Joanne Rybak
President