

**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 13th day of January 2025, at 6:31 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; 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 Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski 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 Palazzo and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the following minutes:

- Board of Trustee Special meeting minutes held on December 2, 2024.
- Board of Trustee Regular meeting minutes held on December 9, 2024.
- Approve and keep closed the December 2, 2024, Closed Session meeting minutes.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

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

Chief Blondell said it is great to see everyone, it is a big night.

Chief Blondell stated that we ended the year with over 4600 calls. This is the second most in the history of the department. There were no injuries to employees in 2024 which is a great.

Chief Blondell shared his history of when he started here at 19 years old and how he could not have done 30 years without the support of his wife and kids.

He thanked the elected officials and the staff for everything. It was the best board and there were no legal problems.

Chief Blondell was grateful for Deputy Chief Peistrup and knows he will do a great job. He would also like to thank the village mayors, police chiefs and officers, ALGH, and Resurrection Hospital for working so well with him.

He is not sure what the future holds but does not plan to do anything in the fire service.

Thank you for 30 years.

Motion by Trustee Palazzo seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the Chief's report for December 2024.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Palazzo to approve Resolution #25-1, a Resolution in honor of Fire Chief David C. Blondell.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Presentation to retiring Fire Chief David C. Blondell.

Lt. Mark Blondell read the Resolution.

Chief Blondell was presented with a shadow box and a retirement badge.

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to approve the appointment and contract of Fire Chief Jeffrey W. Peistrup.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to go into recess.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,

Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Entered recess at 6:58pm

Returned from recess at 7:23pm

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

President's Report: Trustee Rybak stated there is nothing to report.

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

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	\$310,677.07
Wintrust -MM #2776	2,692,239.92
Wintrust- Checking #9771	30,149.31
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	2,906,484.85
Wintrust- Medical #0599	6,387.72
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,209.91
Wintrust- FSA #0713	7,528.42
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	34,523.83
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$5,989,201.03</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (5.15%, 02/10/25)	1,038,706.02
Belmont Bank (4.90% 07/21/25)	635,838.58
Belmont Bank (5.15% 01/19/25)	1,038,747.18
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$2,713,291.78</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$8,702,492.81</u>

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

- December's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$572,073.56.
- The Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for December 2024.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Santoro stated they will need to get with the new chief and have a committee meeting.

Building and Equipment Committee-Trustee Wegrecki stated they will need to meet. They will need to discuss the concrete work.

Policy Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated there was nothing to report.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated there is nothing to report.

Pension Fund Member- Trustee Massaro stated there was nothing to report. Chief Peistrup discussed the Illinois Department of Insurance and the audit.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to pass and approve Resolution #25-2, a Resolution authorizing the disposal of surplus equipment (stair chairs).

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Massaro to accept the audit for the 2023 fiscal year as presented by Sikich LLP.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Santoro to ratify the following payments:

- \$19,590.00 to Air One Equipment for 5 sets of bunker gear.
- \$9,315.00 to Trusha Davis Designs for flooring in the Day Room.

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

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Louis Mezzano
Secretary

Joanne Rybak
President