

PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

DECEMBER 8, 2014 REGULAR TRUSTEE MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Palos Fire Protection Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m., December 8, 2014 by President Kevin McCurrie. The meeting was conducted at 8815 West 123rd Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: On call of the roll Trustees Gene Adams, Todd Thielmann, Kevin McCurrie, Rich Nogal and Russell Miller responded as present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief Patrick Gericke, Administrative Assistant JoAnn D'Altorio, Attorneys Thomas Courtney and Mark Juster, CPA James Howard, Recording Secretary Gladys Nash and members of the public and fire department.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Nogal to approve the November 3, 2014 trustee minutes as presented. Trustee Miller seconded the motion; same carried unanimously on roll call vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Howard summarized the financial analysis for the six month period ended October 31, 2014. Property taxes received are 47% of budget (major installments are received in March and August/September). Ambulance fees of \$60,000.00 were collected in October (or 49% of budget). President McCurrie noted \$451,443.41 for payroll and \$224,546.65 for accounts receivable and payables are presented to the Board for approval. A motion was made by Trustee Miller to accept the report and authorize expenditures of \$675,990.06 as verified by Mr. Howard. Trustee Adams seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Miller, Adams, Thielmann, McCurrie and Nogal voted aye; motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY: There was none.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Station response times are fairly consistent. Station #2 is the leader because of proximity to the Peace Memorial facility.

The Board of Fire Commissioners will meet on December 11 to calculate final scores for the men who participated in the testing process for captain (subject to application of military points). Participants are given the opportunity to meet with the commissioners to learn how points were scored, and also to learn of their strengths and weaknesses.

Station #2 roof work is dependent on the weather.

Employee Injury: One employee is off because of a shoulder injury.

Weather Siren: The chief and Mr. Courtney have had discussions with the City of Palos Heights representatives. Mr. Courtney advised there has been no response from them in regard to the intergovernmental agreement presented for signatures. Determination must be made regarding operating condition of the sirens. The board will be apprised of further developments.

The ambulance loan was paid in full in November, and the district has received the title from the lien holder.

Response to medical emergency on Thanksgiving: Recognition of services rendered to family members who suffered from dangerous levels of carbon monoxide was reviewed. Palos Heights and Orland Fire Districts provided assistance in transporting the patients. Crews under supervision of Captain Adams (including Lt. Hranicka and FF/PM Foley) were commended for their expertise by the nursing supervisor and a physician at Palos Community Hospital.

Trustee Miller suggested the trustees recognize the personal time given by the vehicle committee members in developing specifications for the new equipment. The committee met with vendor representatives and also visited manufacturing plants in finalizing their recommendations to the trustees.

Public Act 78-60: Trustee Adams cited the act relative to hiring procedures for fire fighters. The fire commissioners have consistently exhibited care in assuring their rules are meet state regulations. A joint meeting with the commissioners will be scheduled in 2015 to discuss the act.

OLD BUSINESS:

A. The chief's contract will be discussed in closed session.

B. Trustee training in Lombard February 5-8, 2015. Eligibility for trustees to serve on the board require 32 hours initial training, and three hours of approved, qualified programs annually. Pension fund board members are required to annually attend sixteen hours of training.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Tax Levy Ordinance 2014-3 was presented by Mr. Courtney for trustee approval. Mr. Howard noted there is a 1.74% increase in the tax extension amount. Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Miller to adopt TAX LEVY ORDINANCE 2014-3 FOR PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, RESCUE AND AMBULANCE SERVICE as presented. Trustee Thielmann seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Miller, Thielmann, Adams, McCurrie and Nogal voted aye; motion carried.

B) Workers Compensation Renewal January 1, 2015: Chief Gericke noted the renewal reflects a monthly increase of \$465,00 (1.8% increase over 2014). The district has received excellent service from Illinois Public Risk Fund over the years. The district is eligible for an IPRF Safety Grant in the amount of \$27,835.00. Mr. Josh English, representing Horton Insurance, highlighted liability limits and endorsements relative to six specific areas. Trustee Adams moved to approve the contract for Worker's Compensation Insurance with Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF) for \$312,877.00 (effective January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016). Trustee Miller seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Adams, Miller, Thielmann, McCurrie and Nogal voted aye; motion carried.

C) Property & Casualty Insurance Renewal: Chief Gericke noted Volunteer Firemen's Insurance Services (VFS) has provided coverage for over 20 years. He advised the annual premium includes an Accident and Sickness coverage, not offered by another agency. This coverage specifically reduces costs when an employee is off work for an extended period for on-duty injury. Mr. Bob Brady reviewed enhancements to the property and casualty coverage offered in the policy which also includes a guarantee replacement cost for district claims. A position bond for trustees, fire commissioners and administrative personnel, and umbrella coverage for personal auto use when responding to an emergency is part of the policy. Claims made for the fire truck and deductibles were slightly over \$500,000. Mr. Courtney asked if there is coverage to insure against a claim by survivors for line-of-duty death. Mr. Brady responded there is none available. A motion was made by Trustee Adams to authorize the renewal with the additional amount of \$138,00 for excess liability (estimated annual premium of \$42,664.00 effective January 15, 2015). Trustee Nogal seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Adams, Nogal, Thielmann, McCurrie and Miller voted aye; motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Thielmann to adjourn into closed session at 8:05 p.m. concerning issues regarding personnel and contract negotiations. Trustee Miller seconded the motion which passed unanimously on roll call vote.

RECONVENED REGULAR MEETING: The open meeting was reconvened at 8:58 p.m., on a motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Nogal. Motion passed unanimously on roll call vote. No action was taken by the board.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m., on a motion made by Trustee Nogal, seconded by Trustee Miller. The motion carried unanimously on roll call vote.

(Handwritten signatures in blue and red ink over horizontal lines)