PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 12, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Palos Fire Protection District was called to order on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. by Commissioner Robert Stevens at Station #1, 8815 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

ROLL CALL: On the call of the roll, the following Commissioners responded as present: Commissioner Tom Crowhurst and Commissioner Robert Stevens. Commissioner James Staszcuk was not present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief Mike McDonald, Deputy Chief Chris Courtney and recording secretary, Maxine Bell.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Crowhurst made a Motion to Approve the minutes of the August 15, 2019 meeting and Commissioner Stevens seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Chief McDonald explained that in regard to employee discipline, Mr. Hanley did not have his pager turned on. Brian Vlcek took care of that issue. Chief wanted to keep the Commissioners apprised of this because this employee is the same one that had two accidents on his record. Referencing Lieutenant Rutter, the District is waiting to hear from his lawyer. Chief would then schedule a meeting and have his lawyer there to present his case. Essentially, this was the discipline aspect in a nutshell.

Chief brought up another issue to the Commissioners concerning the fact that the Chief is in the process of assigning a new Captain. Lieutenant Gabriele has been the acting Captain for the last few months but he can only work 60-90 days according to the contract. We have asked Lieutenant Hackett to take his place starting October 2nd. That is the assignment taking place. Commissioner Stevens asked if Chief needed a Motion to Approve. Chief responded stating that a Motion was not necessary. He just wanted to make the Commissioners aware of this taking place.

The issue regarding possible new employees is pending Trustees' approval. The CBA has not been approved yet. It is not causing any undue stress to the Department. Mr. Zofkie was given one month and then the District will probably be severing our relationship with him. We do not want to do it right now because it would put us in a position to incur overtime.

Deputy Chief Courtney stated that the District will be exhausting the full time list pretty quickly. One of the problems we've created in the past is that the part-time employees were not hired full time. We kept them on part-time. We would like to start the procedure that if a part-time employee does not meet the criteria of a full-time employee, we do not want him employed with PFPD. We do not want to deal with the aggravation. We discussed the next two people on the list and we do not feel that they will be successful in going through this process.

Deputy Chief Courtney stated that once CBA is approved be forewarned that the District will have to have full time testing, lieutenant testing and Captain testing all at the same time. The Union only wants two people taking lieutenant tests, the District wants all lieutenants taking the test. Chief McDonald stated that we have many candidates that would adequately fill the position of Lieutenant.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Stevens made a Motion to Adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners and Commissioner Crowhurst seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

The next scheduled regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be Thursday, October 14, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.