

PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

June 2, 2014 REGULAR TRUSTEE MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Palos Fire Protection District Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:01 p.m., June 2, 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 Todd Thielmann, Kevin McCurrie and Rich Nogal responded as present. Trustee Miller joined the meeting at 7:06 p.m. Trustee Gene Adams was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief Patrick Gericke, Administrative Assistant Marianne DeHaan, Attorney Thomas Courtney, Sr., Assistant Chief Rob Knez, CPA James Howard, Recording Secretary Gladys Nash, members of the Knez family, fire department and the public.

REVISED AGENDA: At 7:02 p.m., a motion was made by Trustee Nogal to revise the agenda to NEW BUSINESS - Item IX-A recognizing Assistant Chief Rob Knez for thirty years of service with the Palos Fire Protection District. Trustee Thielmann seconded the motion which carried unanimously. President McCurrie introduced Lt. Mike McDonald to make the presentation. Lt. McDonald noted that Rob started with the department when he was fifteen years old, served as a Cadet and was appointed to a full time position on June 1, 1984. Rob has moved up through the ranks to achieve Assistant Chief. He has been a positive influence in operations, instilling pride and tradition in the department, and the men who serve under him. Further, Rob is highly regarded by his fellow fire fighters. Those present individually congratulated Assistant Chief Knez on his achievements. The Board congratulated Rob and welcomed members of his family.

The regular agenda was resumed at 7:06 p.m. on a motion duly made, seconded and carried.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Trustee Nogal to appoint Kevin McCurrie as President. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. There being no discussion the motion passed unanimously on roll call vote.

Motion was made by Trustee Nogal to appoint Gene Adams as Treasurer. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. There being no discussion the motion passed unanimously on roll call vote.

Motion was made by Trustee Thielmann to appoint Russell Miller as Secretary. Trustee McCurrie seconded the motion. There being no discussion the motion passed unanimously on roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the May 5, 2014 Regular Trustee Meeting were approved on a motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Thielmann. The motion carried unanimously on roll call vote.

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TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Howard presented a statement of revenue and expenditures for the twelve month period ending April 30, 2014. Property tax revenue is 82% of budget, while ambulance user fees are 95% of budget. Monies allocated for operations have been made on a very conservative basis. With one exception every fund has stayed within the budget. Mr. Howard recommended the board seek insurance bids to keep costs as competitive as possible.

A motion was made by Trustee Nogal to accept the report and authorize expenditures of \$565,185.89 in payables as presented. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Nogal, Miller, Thielmann, and McCurrie voted aye; motion carried unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Response times will be updated at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ambulance Billing: Chief Gericke presented the proposal from Medical Reimbursement Services (MRS) in Mokena (a list of references was enclosed). Mr. Courtney has reviewed the 3-year proposal and made necessary changes. There is an option which will allow Palos to terminate the service. The fees for Andre Medical Billing located in Arlington Heights are the same as those quoted from MRS. Chief Gericke appreciates the fact that MRS is a smaller company and located close to Palos. MRS anticipates increasing revenue by 10% and will provide the district with a certificate of insurance. Chief Gericke recommended the district hire MRS for ambulance reimbursement. He estimates it will take about sixteen months to provide an evaluation of services rendered. A motion was made by Trustee Nogal to hire Medical Reimbursement Services, LLC with amendments as determined by Attorney Thomas Courtney. Trustee Miller seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Nogal, Miller, Thielmann and McCurrie voted aye; motion carried unanimously.

Chief Gericke asked for guidance regarding current billing rates for ambulance responses. The board noted that Palos residents have shown great support in passing the recent referendum. Approximately 75 to 77% of ambulance calls require ALS treatment. Medicare has an established amount for ambulance service, regardless of services required. Ms. DeHaan advised the unpaid balance on invoices is then submitted to private insurance carriers if applicable. She noted District residents are very loyal regarding unpaid invoice balances. Following a discussion of some length, rate changes to cover the rising cost of providing services will be implemented:

	<u>Resident Rate</u>	<u>Non-Resident Rate</u>
BLS Care	\$550.00 (unchanged)	\$950.00
ALS Care	\$550.00 (unchanged)	\$1,050.00
Mileage (from scene to hospital only)	\$10.00	\$10.00

A motion was made by Trustee Miller to adopt the rate changes shown above effective immediately. Trustee Thielmann seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Miller, Thielmann, McCurrie and Nogal voted aye; motion carried unanimously.

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Memorandum of Understanding with Cook County: The contents of the memo were summarized by Chief Gericke which allows Palos to utilize some of the funding and resources available for use in emergency situations. Oak Forest is the location which has generators, pumps, miscellaneous equipment and facilities for establishing a command post. There is no cost to the district for these resources which have been beneficial in the past. Palos Fire District just needs to reach out to Cook County for such benefit. Mr. Courtney has reviewed the contract and found it to be satisfactory. MABAS has state-wide reach, but their supplies and services are somewhat different. A certificate of insurance must be submitted to Cook County. A motion to adopt the Emergency Equipment MOU was made by Trustee Thielmann, seconded by Trustee Nogal; same carried unanimously on roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

OATH OF OFFICE: The oath of office for trustee was administered to Russell Miller in accordance with the Fire Protection District Act.

2014-2015 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance: The ordinance has been reviewed by Mr. Courtney. A motion to adopt the ordinance was made by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Thielmann. On call of the roll Trustees Miller, Thielmann, McCurrie and Nogal voted aye; motion carried unanimously.

Agreement with Governmental Accounting: The Board acknowledged that services provided from Governmental Accounting have been very efficient and helpful to the district. Fees and charges for the Comprehensive Financial Accounting Package are \$3,100.00 per month, payable the first of each month. A motion was made by Trustee Nogal to approve the agreement as presented, seconded by Trustee Thielmann. On call of the roll Trustees Nogal, Thielmann, McCurrie and Miller voted aye; motion carried.

2014 Tax Anticipation Warrants: Mr. Howard advised adoption is a last minute approach in the event receipt of real estate taxes is delayed for any reason. This would provide the mechanics to fill the gap until the tax amounts are received by the District.

ORDINANCE 2014-1: A motion was made by Trustee Miller to adopt ORDINANCE 2014-1 TAX ANTICIPATION WARRANT (Maturity Date January 2, 2015) for \$500,000.00 FIRE DISTRICT COPORATE FUND at a rate of 2.9% per annum from First Midwest Bank. Trustee Nogal seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Miller, Nogal, McCurrie and Thielmann voted aye; motion carried.

ORDINANCE 2014-2: A motion was made by Trustee Miller to adopt ORDINANCE 2014-2 TAX ANTICIPATION WARRANT (Maturity Date January 2, 2015) for \$500,000.00 FIRE DISTRICT AMBULANCE FUND at a rate of 2.9% per annum from First Midwest Bank. Trustee Nogal seconded the motion. On call of the roll Trustees Miller, Nogal, McCurrie and Thielmann voted aye; motion carried.

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STATION #2 ROOF REPAIR: A motion was made by Trustee Thielmann to authorize the Station #2 roof repairs as submitted. Trustee McCurrie seconded the motion; same carried unanimously on roll call vote.

PREVAILING WAGE ORDINANCE for 2014/2015: The Ordinance Ascertaining Prevailing Rate of Wages of Employees on Public Works for 2014/2015 was approved on a motion by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Nogal. On call of the roll Trustees Miller, Nogal and McCurrie voted aye. Trustee Thielmann voted nay; motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was duly made, seconded and unanimously carried to adjourn into closed session at 7:53 p.m. to discuss the part-time collective bargaining agreement.

RETURN TO OPEN MEETING: The open meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m. on a motion made by Trustee Thielmann, seconded by Trustee Nogal; same carried unanimously.

A motion to adopt the part-time collective bargaining agreement as discussed by the board was made by Trustee Thielmann, seconded by Trustee Miller; same carried unanimously on roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m. on a motion made by Trustee Thielmann, seconded by Trustee Miller; same carried unanimously on roll call vote.










