

**PALOS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Palos Fire Protection District was called to order on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. by President James Staszczuk at Station #1, 8815 W. 123rd Street, Palos Park, Illinois.

ROLL CALL: On the call of the roll, the following Commissioners responded as present: Commissioners James Staszczuk, Commissioner Robert Stevens and Commissioner Tom Crowhurst.

OTHERS PRESENT: Chief James Graben, Deputy Chief Mike McDonald, recording secretary Maxine Bell and fire station personnel.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Commissioner Crowhurst made a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the May 10, 2018 Commissioners Meeting and Commissioner Staszczuk seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: The Commissioners reviewed the test results of the new hire, Mr. Matthew Harris. An assessment of these results proved unfavorable to the Commissioners. A Motion to Pass on Hiring Mr. Harris as an employee of the Palos Fire Protection District was made by Commissioner Staszczuk and seconded by Commissioner Stevens. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

Chief Graben informed the Commissioners that Captain John Hranicka has retired as of Monday morning. Chief Graben has been instructed by the Trustees to fill the ranks. Chief has explained what individuals he has offered the positions to and is awaiting their responses. Chief stated that as candidates choose to go forth, then routine testing will take place for the two new candidates. Chief will proceed down the list for the hiring of new employees.

NEW BUSINESS: Commissioner Staszczuk asked about promotions for the Captain and Lieutenant positions. Chief Graben informed him that Chris Courtney was the first individual on the list to be promoted to Captain. Discussion ensued as to the list being exhausted soon and Chief Graben explained that current individuals were not eligible. Chief stated that the Union is fully aware of this and that the Union will have to negotiate with the new Chief to amend the language to allow for the testing of Battalion Chiefs. This procedure will have to be worked out to a satisfying conclusion. Commissioner Staszczuk then made a Motion to Approve the Promotion of Chris Courtney as Captain effective June 16, 2018 and Mr. Stevens seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

Chief stated now that when Chris Courtney becomes Captain that will create a vacancy for the Lieutenant position. Chief Graben advised that Joe Lenzen was next in line for the Lieutenant's position. Commissioner Staszczuk made a Motion to Approve Joseph Lenzen being promoted to Lieutenant as of June 16, 2018 and Commissioner Stevens seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed.

Chief Graben made the Commissioners aware that he is working through the list to get two new candidates in the very near future (a matter of weeks). Discussion ensued. Chief Graben explained to the Commissioners what "passed" and "declined" meant in regards to the candidates. Commissioner Staszczuk asked the Chief if he would have results from these new candidates by the end of the month. Chief answered "possibly." The candidates must go through testing. When Chief gets the results, he will put in a packet and e-mail same to Commissioners and then call a meeting regarding the candidates.

Deputy Chief McDonald spoke to Steve Hale about having testing done the latter part of July. Deputy Chief McDonald will start taking applications for "new hires." By July 10th applications will be available for pick up. Packets are time stamped "out" and time stamped "in". After written exam, the District will know how many candidates there will be. Chief Graben explained the entire process to the Commissioners. The Board of Trustees have approved that new hires must have a United States Class B non-CDL, or equivalent, driver's license.

Commissioner Staszczuk said that the disposition of the "closed minutes" of Commissioners meetings needed to be addressed. Discussion ensued and Commissioner Staszczuk made a Motion to Keep "Closed Minutes" of Commissioners Meeting closed to the Public. Motion was seconded by Mr. Crowhurst and by call of the roll, the Motion passed.

Chief Graben next spoke to Commissioners about the next Chief and administration in regards to new negotiations. Chief explained that he was working on "Battalion Chiefs" with the Union. He expects this issue to be resolved within the next two months. Chief stated that it was yet to be determined how it falls into place. Chief advised Commissioners that they would be involved in regards to the establishing of Battalion Chiefs. Testing would be involved and "intricacies" will be involved. Discussion ensued.

There being no further business, Commissioner Staszczuk made a Motion to Adjourn and Commissioner Stevens seconded. By call of the roll, the Motion passed. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners is Thursday, July 12, 2018.

