

Regular Meeting
July 15, 2008

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Trustee Klage at 7:35 p.m.

Swear in New Trustees: Newly appointed Trustees Gerald A. Beeson and Thomas P. Duhig were given the oath of office by Robin Youngberg as a notary public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Members Present: Trustee Gerald Beeson, Trustee Thomas Duhig, Trustee Mark Klage, Trustee Gary Muehlfelt, Trustee William Thar.

Also Present: Chief Phillip A. DiMenza and Attorney Bernie K. Weiler.

Election of Officers: Trustee Klage opened the floor for nominations for the office of President. Trustee Beeson nominated Trustee Duhig for the office of President, seconded by Trustee Duhig. Trustee Thar nominated Trustee Klage, seconded by Trustee Muehlfelt. After much discussion on individual thoughts with respect to the location of the fire station and the need for a referendum, Trustee Klage was elected to the office of President by roll call vote.

President Klage then opened the floor for nominations for the office of Secretary. Trustee Muehlfelt nominated Trustee Duhig to the office of secretary, seconded by Trustee Thar. There being no other nominations, Trustee Duhig was elected to the office of Secretary by roll call vote.

President Klage opened the floor for nominations for the office of Treasurer. Secretary Duhig nominated Trustee Beeson to the office of Treasurer, seconded by President Klage. There being no other nominations, Trustee Beeson was elected to the office of Treasurer by roll call vote.

Trustee Beeson asked to have the floor for a couple of minutes to address some rumors that have been heard regarding his reasons for seeking appointment to the Board of Trustees. He stressed that he is not on this Board to do anyone's dirty work or to get rid of anyone. He became interested in serving on the Board after the third referendum failed because he wanted to get involved and see what he could do to help. He felt that there was a disconnect between the District and the voters that needed to be addressed, and he would also like to see more manpower added with competitive pay. After his 8-month term, he will decide whether or not to run for office; and if he does run, it will be his decision, not because someone else wants him to do it. In the meantime, he feels a responsibility to the taxpayers, and that's what his commitment will be while he is here.

Trustee Muehlfelt stated that he also took offense to comments in the newspaper that confirmed that the rumors printed by that newspaper were entirely untrue. He is looking forward to working with Trustees Beeson and Duhig for as long as they are on the Board together to provide the best service possible to the residents of the District.

Minutes: The minutes of the Regular Meeting of 6/17/08 were distributed prior to the meeting. There being no corrections, Trustee Thar made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as

presented, seconded by Trustee Muehlfelt. Trustees Beeson and Duhig abstained. Motion carried.

Remarks From Floor: Mr. Mike Konewko asked to speak, stating that there are many creative ways to raise revenue for the Fire District and make it better. President Klage agreed, stating that they have been doing a lot of unique revenue generating over the past several years as it is. He further stated that if Mr. Konewko or anyone else had suggestions that have not been tried, the Board is always open to hearing those. Mr. Konewko suggested contacting neighboring jurisdictions to see what they do to generate additional revenue. Attorney Weiler stated that those discussions are had at the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts conference held each year.

Treasurer's Report: Trustee Thar stated that there is a CD at Leaders Bank coming due, and he recommended bringing those funds back into the District at Community Bank, as they have agreed to offer the same rate. The Board agreed that if the funds can be kept in the District at the highest available rates, that would be their preference.

The Treasurer's Report for June was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. As of 5/30/08, the beginning balance in the checking account and general money market account was \$108,284.96. After deposits of \$912,791.61, disbursements of \$240,865.54, and two operating CD's for \$50,000.00 each, the ending balance for those accounts was \$880,211.03. The combined balance of the Capital Projects and Equipment Fund Money Markets was \$502,758.53, and the balance for the Capital Projects and Equipment Fund CD's was \$1,411,387.65. There being no questions, Trustee Thar a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Trustee Muehlfelt. All in favor.

Chief's Report: Chief DiMenza informed the Board that the district received a \$1,500.00 check and a plaque from IRMA for Risk Management excellence for 2008.

Deputy Chief's Report: Deputy Chief Lewis informed the Board that on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. the Northern Illinois Sprinkler Advisory Board will be conducting a side-by-side demonstration, working with two structures, one with sprinklers and one without, to show the effectiveness of home sprinkler systems during a fire. That demonstration will be held directly across the street from the Village Hall. This demonstration is in support of the Village of Winfield attempting to adopt a sprinkler ordinance for certain residential structures.

Deputy Chief Lewis then spoke about Cantigny Phase One being complete. Phase Two will be starting next year, which will include a multi-story office building on the Cantigny grounds so that the Tribune Foundation can move their offices from Chicago to Winfield. Unfortunately, all of that development is tax exempt.

Deputy Chief Lewis stated that the agreements between Central DuPage Hospital and the District expired on June 30, 2008; however, Central DuPage Hospital has verbally agreed to continue to pay \$175,000.00 for another year.

Chief DiMenza and Deputy Chief Lewis then met with Central DuPage Hospital administration to discuss the helicopter pad, which was moved to the south entrance. The Hospital needs a safe way to transport patients from the helicopter to the emergency room; however, many times when

they contact a private ambulance, that ambulance will be driving at a high rate of speed through the center of the Village. Instead, Chief DiMenza and Deputy Chief Lewis are looking for a solution where the Hospital can have the District ambulance dispatched upon notification of the helicopter being called to give time for callback paramedics to respond and man the second ambulance so as not to jeopardize medical service to the District residents. If an agreement is reached between the District and the Hospital, it is hoped that the \$175,000.00 payment from the Hospital can be increased to include that agreement. There will be a follow-up meeting in the near future, and both Chiefs would like a member of the Board of Trustees to attend that meeting.

The Village of Winfield approved Central DuPage Hospital's bed pavilion in his current plan, which is one story shorter and without the helipad, making it a 72-foot roof line, which is within the range of the District's mutual aid ladder trucks. The Hospital has expressed an interest in adding that story back in within five or six years and putting the helipad back on top of that pavilion, and Deputy Chief Lewis informed them if that happens, they would have to re-open the discussions of the Hospital providing the District with a ladder truck that would accommodate that facility.

Deputy Chief Lewis stated that the old Viking Steak House is finally being renovated. Once it is complete, it will be Morgan's Chop House.

With the District losing one of its part-time Lieutenants recently, Chief DiMenza and Deputy Chief Lewis would like to institute some type of process for promoting additional part-time Lieutenants. There hasn't been a part-time Lieutenant's test in over 10 years, and they would like to have three more part-time Lieutenants added. In anticipation of this process, Deputy Chief Lewis asked anyone from the paid-on-call membership who had over three years on the department to submit a letter of interest if they would like to be considered for the testing process, and he has received six letters so far. Chief DiMenza has been helping Warrenville with their part-time Lieutenants and Captains test, and Chief Kleinwachter has offered to help Winfield with our testing process.

Trustee Beeson asked if those individuals on the part-time lieutenants' list would be the ones qualified to test for the full-time positions. Chief DiMenza stated that only full-time firefighters would be qualified to test for full-time lieutenant positions. Trustee Beeson then asked if any of the current full-time lieutenants are being trained or mentored for either of the Chiefs' positions if and when they open up. Chief DiMenza stated that the District encourages all of its employees to further their education in order to qualify for promotional opportunities. Trustee Beeson agreed that certifications are important, but asked if the Lieutenants are ever able to be the incident commander on the scene in the absence of one of the Chiefs. Trustee Duhig clarified by asking if there is a career development track to show individuals that they are on the right track for promotion to fill those positions if the opportunity arises. Deputy Chief Lewis stated that because there are only three people on the lead engine, the Lieutenant is part of the initial attack team and is not able to take incident command.

Deputy Chief Lewis asked the Board for direction on preparing a "Press Packet" for the Board meetings. After discussion and recommendation from Attorney Weiler, the Board agreed to provide a packet, withholding items meant for Executive Session and unapproved minutes. It will also be noted on the website that press packets are available for other members of the press.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Weiler gave further information on the agreements with Central DuPage Hospital for the benefit of the new Trustees, explaining that these agreements are one of the many ways the District has been looking for ways to pursue additional revenue, particularly from organizations such as the Hospital that demand a lot of service but are tax exempt. Because of the way the Hospital is structured, they are not able to just donate funds to the District. They have to have those funds attached to some type of services. Consequently, the District continually seeks ways to add services to those agreements to increase the revenue received by the Hospital. In addition, Attorney Weiler and Chief DiMenza continually attend conferences and meet with lobbyist who are also pursuing grants and other sources of revenue.

Attorney Weiler commented that during his 25 years' representation of the District, he took pride in the belief that every Board member, both past and present, has taken their position here for the purpose of dedicating service to the taxpayers and looking out for the best interests of the District and its employees. He agreed with the Board's earlier comments that misinformation printed by the press and false rumors are very damaging and can potentially jeopardize a working relationship such as a Board of Trustees, so it was good to clear the air from the beginning.

Old Business: Chief DiMenza reviewed his memorandum regarding office and station renovations. After discussion, Trustee Duhig made a motion to authorize Chief DiMenza to complete the renovations as set forth in his memorandum, contracting with the lowest bidders, seconded Trustee Beeson. All in favor.

Trustee Beeson asked that the proposed Salary Ordinance No. 271 be postponed, as he wanted to discuss current salaries in Executive Session first.

The Board received a letter from the Board of Fire Commissioners, indicating that there are currently two vacancies on that Board that will need to be filled relatively quickly to give new Commissioners time to become educated in their roles before the next round of testing begins. The Board of Trustees agreed to put some thought into coming up with some recommendations by the next meeting.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda consisted of the Monthly Run Report for June. Trustee Thar made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Trustee Beeson. All in favor. Trustee Beeson noted that he found a couple of errors on the May Run Report and asked that those reports be reviewed a little more closely for accuracy.

New Business: Prevailing Wage Rate Ordinance No. 272 was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. After Attorney Weiler explained how it applies to the District, Trustee Beeson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 272, seconded by Trustee Thar. All in favor.

Trustee Beeson asked that the Vehicle Replacement Schedule be put in a more simple format. He found the current format very difficult to understand. Deputy Chief Lewis provided him with a copy of his previous format, which the Board agreed was much easier to read. Deputy Chief Lewis will have a revised schedule available at the next meeting.

Payment of Bills: The monthly bill list for June was provided to the Board prior to the meeting indicating a total of \$189,543.07. Trustee Thar asked to discuss the bill from FGM Architects

for clarification in Executive Session, as he believed it pertained to land acquisition but was not sure. Trustee Thar then made a motion to pay the remaining bills as presented, seconded by Trustee Duhig. All in favor.

Other Business: Comment cards were reviewed by the Board.

Trustee Beeson made a motion to recess to Executive Session for purposes of discussion of land acquisition, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5), pending litigation, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) and personnel and deliberations concerning salary schedules and/or discipline of personnel, 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). That motion was seconded by Trustee Thar. All in favor. The meeting was recessed to Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

(Executive Session)

Following a recess for Executive Session, the open meeting of the Board of Trustees was reconvened at 10:35 p.m., with President Klage, Trustees Muehlfelt, Thar, Beeson and Duhig present. Also present were Chief DiMenza, Deputy Chief Lewis and Attorney Weiler.

After calling the meeting to order, Trustee Muehlfelt made a motion to pay the bill from FGM Architects Engineers, seconded by Trustee Duhig. All in favor.

President Klage then indicated that the proposed Salary Ordinance would be tabled until a future meeting.

There being no further business, Trustee Beeson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Muehlfelt. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Mark Klage, President

Robin K. Youngberg, Recording Secretary