

Regular Meeting  
9/21/21

The Regular Meeting was called to order by President Kallas at 7:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Members Present: President George Kallas, Secretary Phillip Saas, Trustee Jenny Saylor, and Trustee Randy Simpson. Absent: Treasurer Robb Hannen.

Also Present: Chief Steven Evans, and Attorney Bernie Weiler.

Minutes: The minutes of the Special meeting of 8/16/21, Executive Session of 8/16/21, the Regular Meeting of 8/17/21, the Executive Session of 8/17/21, the Special Meeting of 8/23/21, and the Executive Session of 8/23/21 were distributed prior to the meeting. There being no questions or changes, Trustee Saas made a motion to accept all sets of minutes as presented, seconded by Trustee Simpson. All in favor.

Remarks From Floor: Mr. Matt Rich spoke about an injury to a kindergarten student recently, and was very appreciative and spoke very highly of the crew and their response time and caring manner.

Village President Carl Sorgatz thanked the crew's quick response to the singer at the Good Old Days that suffered a heart attack during her performance. They were able to resuscitate her, and she may be released as early as tomorrow. He was very appreciative of their efforts.

Ms. Sue Hempe also expressed how impressed she was to see the Fire Department crew in action, as she was next to the singer after she had collapsed. She said she never realized how much was involved during an event like that. Mr. Dave Hempe reiterated the sentiments already spoke, adding his appreciation for the Fire Department's members' continued efforts through the extreme heat during this past summer.

Mr. Luke Allen stated he was driving the trolley during the Good Old Days, and he remembered seeing the Fire Department vehicles going to emergencies non-stop all day.

Trustee Saas and the Board thanked everyone for their positive feedback. Trustee Saylor noticed people all working together at Good Old Days to aide in the assistance of the singer that collapsed. She felt that the Winfield residents should be proud.

Mr. Matt Tibble had comments with respect to his disappointment with the position taken by the Fire Department on the Joint Review Board. He was equally disappointed with the TIF Board with regard to the impact the TIF would have on the Fire Department, clarifying that the impact will definitely be a significant increase in call volume, and he felt that the Fire Department missed an opportunity to advocate for the Department.

President Kallas spoke to Mr. Tibble's point, stating that speaking unfavorably in public is not what the Fire District wants to do, but would rather find a different approach, meeting and discussing issues together.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report for 8/31/21 was distributed to the Board prior to the meeting. As of 8/31/21, the beginning balance in the checking account and general money market account was \$1,947,093.96. After deposits of \$304,354.93, disbursements of \$227,065.67, the ending balance for those accounts was \$2,024,383.22. The combined balance of the Capital Projects and Equipment Fund, including CD's was \$1,822,245.63, giving a total of all funds of \$3,846,828.85. There being no questions, Trustee Saas a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Trustee Saylor. All in favor.

Chief's Report:

Chief Evans reviewed the Technical Rescue/Water Rescue Special Operations Drill for this month as well as the Multi-Company multi-family live fire training. In addition, he reviewed some recent incidents, both in District and mutual aid. He also reviewed the After Action Report on the Mass Casualty Drill, commending FF/PM Smith as well as the others involved in putting that together.

Service anniversaries for the month include Chief Evans, with 28 years on 9/21 and FF/PM Troutman, with 26 years on 8/26.

Chief Evans advised the Board that FF/PM Nicholas Rivera started full-time on 9/13/21. He also gave an update on Engine 31, that it should be in service within the week.

The Pension Board met in the morning, and Chief Evans gave an update on the FPIF consolidation process.

The roof on Station #31 is in serious need of repair/replacement, so Chief Evans is working on getting an RFP together to begin that process.

Chief Evans received a letter from DuPage County indicating that there is an upcoming increase in fuel surcharges, from \$.08 per gallon to \$.20 per gallon. While the increase is significant, the Cost of fuel at the county is still less than what the District would be paying elsewhere, and the location is convenient.

Chief Evans also gave an update on the status of grants currently in progress.

Attorney's Report: Deferred to New Business.

Old Business:

Village President Carl Sorgatz gave a brief presentation on the TIF Districts and how they impact the other taxing bodies within the Village. He explained how the Village was able to get some of the Northwest Medicine properties on the tax rolls and described the time period for that process, as well as which properties will be on the tax rolls from Day 1. He also gave a little history on TIF 1. He encouraged the Fire District to, once again, see a referendum now that there is more time to prepare and less opposition. He felt that a successful referendum would provide much more funding relief to the District than what the TIF's can do.

Mr. Sorgatz had a handout that he reviewed to summarize TIF II for the Board. Attorney Weiler stated that this is the first time a Winfield Village President has attended a Fire District Board Meeting and acknowledge that both organizations represent the same constituency. The Board concurred.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda consisted of the Monthly Run Report for August, indicating that the Department is 197 calls higher year-to-date than last year. Trustee Saas made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Trustee Simpson. All in favor.

New Business: Now that the interviews for Deputy Chief have all been complete, Trustee Saas made a motion to appoint Eric Ermer to the position of Deputy Chief of the Winfield Fire Protection District, seconded by Simpson. All in favor by roll call vote. At that point, Trustee Saas then made a motion to ratify the employment agreement with DC Ermer as presented, seconded by Trustee Saylor. All in favor by roll call vote.

Resolution No. FY2021-102 was provided to the Board. After much discussion, Trustee Simpson made a motion to adopt Resolution No. FY2021-102, seconded by Trustee Saas. All in favor by roll call vote.

The Winfield Firefighter's Pension Fund provided their annual Actuarial Report, their Municipal Compliance Report as well as their Tax Levy Request Letter, requesting that the District levy \$423,333 as suggested by the Actuarial Report. Trustee Saas made a motion to authorize the levy of \$423,333 for the Pension Fund, seconded by Trustee Saylor. All in favor by roll call vote.

Payment of Bills: The monthly bill list for August was provided to the Board prior to the meeting indicating a total of \$301,452.97. Trustee Saas made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Trustee Simpson. All in favor.

Other Business: None.

Trustee Saas made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss Personnel, Salaries and/or Discipline, seconded by Trustee Saylor. All in favor.

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George Kallas, President

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Robin K. Youngberg, Recording Secretary