

SOUTH ELGIN AND COUNTRYSIDE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OFFICIAL RECORD

DATE: July 11, 2024

The regular monthly meeting for the South Elgin and Countryside Fire Protection District was called to order on July 11, 2024, at 09:00. The meeting was conducted at Station 22, 2055 McDonald Road, South Elgin, IL, 60177.

PRESENT: President Diana Cornelissen, Secretary Rick Bohlman, and Trustee Kathy Hazelwood

ABSENT: Treasurer Jeffrey Speyers and Trustee Jeff Theriault

PRESENTATIONS –

- Chief Luchsinger reported that two of our full-time firefighters, FF Evan Bott and FF Natalie Kusnierewicz graduated from the Advocate Sherman Paramedic Program on June 27, 2024 with the support of their EMS preceptors Chris Elliott, Jimmy Schoff and Bailey Nixon, and our EMS Coordinator Lt. Jason Peters. Their next step is to challenge the National exam in order to become licensed paramedics in the State of Illinois.
- Chief Luchsinger informed the Board that Gold shift did a great job responding to two fires in our District on July 5, 2024. Crews responded first to a fire on Barry Road and then again 5 1/2 hours later to a fire on Route 31. Both fires were in rural areas and posed challenges for the crews, but they persevered and did a phenomenal job.

Treasurer's Report –James Howard was present and reviewed with the Board the District's financial report as provided for June 2024. The Board discussed the District's financial position thus far into 2024.

Acceptance and Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of June 13, 2024 meeting minutes, regular and Closed Session
- b. Approval of Treasurer's Report for June 2024
- c. Approval July 11, 2024 bills in the amount of \$ 774,946.89
Ratify June 14-July 10, 2024 bills in the amount of \$125,559.56
Ratification and Approval of Emergency Expenditure for Station 21 water heater replacement in the amount of \$17,950 Fellows Brothers Inc.

Trustee Hazelwood made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed by a voice vote of 3-0 (Treasurer Speyers and Trustee Theriault absent).

- ATTORNEY'S REPORT- Attorney Shawn Flaherty informed the Board of updates in legislation that is pertinent to Fire Districts. In June the governor signed a bill allowing fire districts to purchase vehicles and equipment up to \$50,000.00 without having to enter into the bidding process. Another bill, still alive but not yet signed, gives fire districts the right to save money for reasons / purchases other than buildings, land, and fire equipment.

CHIEF'S REPORT –

- Chief Luchsinger reported an issue that was discovered with ambulance billing/reporting. A solution has been found and is being put into production.
- Chief Luchsinger reported that one of the bathrooms at Station 22 had flooded that morning. Lt Brian Beatty is looking into the issue and ways to solve this issue now and in the future.
- Lieutenant Ryan Payne's promotional ceremony is scheduled for July 17th, 2024 at Station 21. All are encouraged to attend.
- Chief Luchsinger informed the Board that the Pension money that the District received from May and June Kane County tax payments has been wired to the Pension fund.
- Chief Luchsinger led a discussion on our current interest rates, and current and possible future investments.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT-

- President Cornelissen thanked the crews at Station 21 for their patience while managing the hardship of having no hot water during the week it took to get the new water heater installed.

Old Business- Nothing at this time

NEW BUSINESS-

Discussion and possible approval of engagement letter with Sikich for audit services through 2026 – President Cornelissen made a motion to enter into a 3-year contract with Sikich for the District's Annual Financial Reports. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed 3-0 (Treasurer Speyers and Trustee Theriault absent).

Discussion and possible approval of Fire Chief Employment Agreement Amendment- Trustee Hazelwood made a motion to approve the amendment to Chief Luchsinger's employment contract. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed 3-0 (Treasurer Speyers and Trustee Theriault absent).

Discussion and possible approval Bi-annual review of Closed Session Minutes- President Cornelissen stated that the Board will go to Closed Session to review the CS minutes.

Discussion and possible approval to destroy closed session audio recordings in excess of 18 months - President Cornelissen stated that the Board will go to Closed Session to discuss this item.

Any other New Business- None at this time.

President Cornelissen made a motion to move to Closed Session @ 09:30 for the purpose of 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body to determine its validity, and 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11) Litigant, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed session, and 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for

purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed 3-0 (Treasurer Speyers and Trustee Theriault absent).

The Board reconvened the regular meeting at 10:03.

President Cornelissen made a motion to release the following Closed Session Minutes: 12/6/2021, 2/7/2022, 3/7/2022, 5/23/2022, 7/11/2022, 8/1/2022, and 11/7/2022, with the remaining unreleased Closed Session minutes remaining closed. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed 3-0 (Treasurer Speyers and Trustee Theriault absent).

Secretary Bohlman made a motion to destroy all Closed Session tapes prior to January 11, 2023. President Cornelissen seconded, and the motion passed 3-0, (Treasurer Speyers and Trustee Theriault absent).

Good of the District – Nothing at this time.

Public Comment- None at this time

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion duly made by Secretary Bohlman and seconded by Trustee Hazelwood the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 hours; the motion passed 3-0 (Treasurer Speyers and Trustee Theriault absent).

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary Bohlman