

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

DATE: December 5 2022

The regular monthly meeting for the South Elgin and Countryside Fire Protection District was called to order on December 5, 2022, at 19:00.

PRESENT: President Mary Van Winkle, Secretary Rick Bohlman, Treasurer Jeffrey Speyers, Trustee Jeff Theriault, and Trustee Diana Cornelissen

ABSENT: None

The Truth in Taxation hearing was opened at 19:00. President Van Winkle asked if there was anyone present that desired to present testimony regarding the proposed tax levy. No one was present. President Van Winkle closed the hearing at 19:02.

PRESENTATIONS –

- Chief Luchsinger reported that FF/PM Dustin Differding and FF/PM Samantha Green received their Fire Service Vehicle Operator certificate.
- President Mary Van Winkle swore in FF/PM John Jowaski and FF/PM Colin Rothecker as the District's newest fulltime firefighters as both of their families proudly watched, John and Colin have both been with the District since the very start of their fire service careers. Congratulations guys!
- A motion to take a short break to celebrate John and Colin joining our District as Fulltime Firefighters was made by Trustee Cornelissen @ 19:08. The motion was seconded by Secretary Bohlman and passed unanimously.

A motion to resume the meeting was made by Trustee Cornelissen at 19:24. The motion was seconded by Secretary Bohlman and the passed unanimously.

Treasurers Report - James Howard was present and reviewed the District's financial report for November 2022 with the Board.

Acceptance and Approval of Consent Agenda

- a. Approval of November 7, meeting minutes, regular, and closed
- b. Approval of Treasurer's Report for October 2022
- c. Approval bills in the amount of \$ 204,614.76
Ratify bills in the amount of \$ 36,169.57

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and motion passed unanimously with Treasurer Speyers abstaining.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Nothing at this time.

CHIEF'S REPORT –

- District Financial Committee – Chief Luchsinger further discussed with the Board the notion of forming an Advisory Financial Committee. The Board discussed forming an informal committee for this purpose; President Van Winkle and Trustee Cornelissen will represent the Board for the negotiations.

- Impact Fees- Chief Luchsinger informed the Board that he had inquired at both the Village of South Elgin and the Village of Bartlett our current balance of Impact Fees that they may be holding for our District. Currently Bartlett is not holding any and South Elgin approximately \$25,000 in fees owed to the District. President Van Winkle will need to formally request these fees be released to the District.
- Union Bank Interest Rate- Chief Luchsinger reached out to Union Bank to discuss our interest rates. After speaking with a bank representative the bank agreed to raise our rates.
- Recognition Committee- Chief Luchsinger reported that Lt. Rich Stumbaugh presented an Awards Program to be implemented by the District. Chief Luchsinger would like a Board member to be a part of the program, as well as himself, two firefighters, a lieutenant, and a battalion chief.
- Collective Bargaining Agreement-Negotiation Team discussion- Chief Luchsinger informed the Board that he fully expects the Union to contact him with a “demand to bargain” sometime in January; the current agreement expires on May 31, 2023. Chief Luchsinger will need two Board members to participate in negotiations.
- TIF District Reports- Chief Luchsinger recently attended both Bartlett and South Elgin’s TIF meetings. Chief discussed the timetables of the TIFs that effect our District.
- Chief’s 2022 Vacation Allotment/Rollover Discussion – Due to the ramifications of his new position(s), and the imminent issues that needed attention in the District, Chief Luchsinger was not able to take his allotted vacation time. As this time needs to be taken within the calendar year, Chief Luchsinger asked the Boards permission to roll over his time into 2023. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to allow Chief Luchsinger to rollover his remaining unused vacation hours from 2022 to 2023. Treasurer Speyers seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

- Illinois Efficiency Act-Committee and Requirements – This act requires Local Government (SECFPD) form a committee to study local efficiencies and report recommendations regarding efficiencies and increased accountability to the county board in which the governmental unit is located. This committee must include the Trustee Board, two residents of our District, and the fire chief.
- State Legislators will be working for a few weeks and then taking a break for the holidays. The new session will start back up with the newly elected members in January 2023.

OLD BUSINESS – No Old Business

Any other Old Business – None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion and possible approval Ordinance 22-0199 Tax Levy Ordinance- The Board has assessed the decision of Tax Levy Ordinance 22-0199 and its impact for the past couple months. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve Tax Levy Ordinance 22-0199. Treasurer Speyers seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Chief Luchsinger informed the board that he would drop off Kane County’s copy later in the week and will file the DuPage copy electronically this week as well. The Tax Levy is due to the counties by December 22, 2022.
- Discussion and possible approval of MABAS Master Agreement – Attorney Shawn Flaherty had previously recommended that the Board adopt the agreement by resolution. Treasurer Speyers made a motion that the District adopt Resolution 22-009 MABAS Master Agreement. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

- Discussion and possible approval Saint Charles Street Properties Service Agreement – As previously discussed there are three properties that lie outside of our District that are not assigned to any Fire Protection District/Department. One of the properties, Saint Charles Street Properties has decided to contract our services. A motion was made by President Van Winkle to enter into a service agreement with Saint Charles Street Properties. The motion was seconded by Secretary Bohlman and passed unanimously.
- Discussion and possible approval of Group Life Insurance-Provident (\$438 Annual term) – Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to approve the renewal of the District's Group Life Insurance with Provident Insurance. Treasurer Speyers seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion and possible approval of Crime Coverage-Hartford (\$1,363 Annual term) - Secretary Bohlman made a motion to approve the purchase of the annual Crime Coverage Policy offered through Hartford Insurance. President Van Winkle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion and possible approval of Property & Casualty Insurance-VFIS (\$71,747 Annual term)- Trustee made a motion to approve the renewal of Property & Casualty Insurance through VFIS. Treasurer Speyers seconded, and the motion approved unanimously.
- Discussion and possible approval of Pace Agreement – Chief Luchsinger, under the advisement of Attorney Flaherty, has been contemplating an agreement with Pace to allow our District to utilize the property at LaFox Street for fire training. This property provides an invaluable opportunity for our firefighters to engage in live fire training conveniently located within our District. All types of crucial firefighter training would be achievable on this property. The possibility of live fire training will only take place if the property proves to be asbestos free/safe. Trustee Theriault made a motion to authorize Chief Luchsinger, with legal approval from Attorney Flaherty to enter into a contract with Pace for the purpose of firefighter training. Secretary Bohlman seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion and possible approval to hire full-time staff – Chief Luchsinger addressed the board on the subject of hiring another full-time firefighter as soon as possible. One of our fulltime firefighters will need to be off for 4-6 months starting the second week of December for non-duty related surgery. Although not budgeted this year, the coverage will save on overtime and will help reduce the taxing mandatory overtime. Trustee Cornelissen made a motion for Chief Luchsinger to proceed starting the process of hiring the next full-time firefighter on the hiring list.

Any other New Business

Any other New Business- Nothing at this time.

GOOD OF THE DISTRICT –Chief Luchsinger reported that the employee Breakfast with Santa was well attended, and everyone enjoyed themselves. Thanks was given to all that worked on this event to make it such a success.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Nothing at this time.

Secretary Bohlman made a motion to enter into Closed Session @19:51 for reason of 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c)(21) Semi-annual review of the closed session minutes/tapes of meetings that were lawfully closed under OMA

A motion was made by Trustee Cornelissen to resume the regular meeting at 19:57. Trustee Theriault seconded; the motion passed unanimously

Discussion and possible approval to destroy closed session audio tapes prior to May 6, 2021 - Secretary Bohlman made a motion to destroy all Closed Session tapes older than 7/31/20. President Van Winkle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Cornelissen made a motion to keep all the current Closed Session Minutes closed. President Van Winkle seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board on a motion duly made by Treasurer Speyers and seconded by Secretary Bolman the meeting was adjourned at 20:34 hours after the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Secretary Bohlman