

Fenton Fire Protection District

Meeting of the Board of Directors

July 28, 2021

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A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Fenton Fire Protection District (hereinafter called the "District") was held on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, via video conferencing originating at the Fenton Fire Protection District, 845 Gregory Lane, Fenton, Missouri 63026.

Chairwoman Beth L. Viviano called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

The following Directors answered Roll Call:

Beth L. Viviano
Jennifer Grimes
Tom Ascheman

Also present was:

Romona Kaminski	District Interim Chief
Daniel McLaughlin	District Legal Counsel
Chris Thiemann	Division Chief - District Fire Marshal
Chris McCarthy	Deputy Chief of EMS
Joe Boushard	Shop Steward
Steve McKinney	Assistant Shop Steward
Rick Rognan	District Accountant

Chairwoman Viviano ruled that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes from the regular and closed meeting held July 14, 2021 were presented and it was

Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascheman to approve the minutes of the regular and closed meeting held July 14, 2021. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Chief Kaminski presented the Board with the bills for review and payment, which totaled \$694,407.78. The list of bills is attached hereto and made a part hereof the minutes to the meeting. After discussion, it was

Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascheman, to approve the bills for payment and ratification. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

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TREASURER’S REPORT

Chief Kaminski presented the Board with the Treasurer’s Report on balances of account, deposits, payments and transfers for the General, Ambulance, Dispatch, Pension, Capital Projects 2019, Debt Service, HRA and FSA Funds. Balances since last meeting are:

Simmons

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Balance as of 7/14/21</u>	<u>Balance as of 7/28/21</u>
General	\$6,950,265.59	\$6,731,891.79
Ambulance	\$2,645,255.70	\$2,568,719.74
Dispatch	\$505,329.51	\$504,378.99
Pension	\$206,149.78	\$206,149.78
Capital Projects		
2019	\$10,794,353.94	\$10,772,942.14
Debt Services	\$1,907,803.13	\$1,907,803.13
HRA	\$6,156.58	\$3,038.05
FSA	\$16,553.83	\$14,524.95

After discussion, it was

Moved by Director Grimes and seconded by Director Ascheman to receive the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Division Chief, Chris Thiemann presented the Board with a construction update for Stations 2 and 3. Division Chief Thiemann started by presenting pictures of Station 2. These pictures were of the site location, layout of where footings will be poured, locations of underground utilities and future landscaping wall.

The demolition of Station 3 is waiting on Ameren UE to pull their utility tap. The demolition could take up to six weeks to complete. The open house originally scheduled for August 14, 2021, will be postponed until the demolition of the old Station 3 is complete. Division Chief Thiemann informed the shed from Station 3 was moved to Station 1, for use by the Community Outreach, at no charge by Miner’s Towing. Division Chief Thiemann provided a detailed cost breakdown of Station 3 construction expenditures. The list of expenditures is attached hereto and made a part hereof the minutes to the meeting.

Deputy Chief McCarthy provided an update about the effects of the COVID Delta variant in St. Louis County and throughout Missouri. COVID cases are increasing significantly in the area

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and include both unvaccinated and vaccinated people. The Medical Control at SSM St. Clare noted those vaccinated are not coming down as sick as those who are not vaccinated. The Pandemic Task Force reviewed current hospitalizations of the four closest hospitals and only six ICU beds were open at the time of the report. Members of the District's Command Staff are reviewing the Safety Plan and preparing for new updates. Mehlville Fire Protection District is planning to become a COVID First Responder Testing site again. The District also has Rapid Tests which can be given to symptomatic personnel on-site. Chairwoman Viviano inquired about personnel returning to wearing masks. Deputy Chief McCarthy explained other measures like health screenings, bumping up of PPE on incidents and reiterating vaccine importance are being reimplemented. Our personnel routinely have been good about contacting Administration when symptomatic or not feeling well.

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

Mr. Rognan presented the Financial Report and Statements as of June 30, 2021. He indicated that with timing items the District used 47.11% of the general fund budget, or was (2.89%) under budget year to date, or (\$252,059.00); and 51.82% of the ambulance fund budget, or was 1.82 over budget year to date, or \$68,130.00. The overage is due mostly to the increased payment for GEMT funding.

Mr. Rognan indicated that for the six (6) month period year versus last year, the District had (\$201,293.00), or (2.34%) less in tax revenue and miscellaneous and bond refinancing income. The District had expenditures over revenues in the amount of \$857,911.00. The District has a reserve of 15.35 months compared to 12.42 months last year.

A lengthy discussion ensued with Mr. Rognan regarding future revenue considerations. These include preparing for increases in inflation, unreserved versus reserved funds, budgeting and monitoring tax appeals and tax recoupment. A couple other key factors is to watch for are businesses like Amazon who are reclassifying their buildings as detachable moving their tax category from real estate to personal property. Personal property tax depreciates over time where real estate tax does not. The tax base for the District is made up 32% commercial tax dollars.

The report is attached hereto and made a part hereof the minutes to this meeting. After discussion, it was

Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascherman to accept and approve the report and financial statements of the District as of June 30, 2021. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

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NEW BUSINESS

As a political subdivision with an annual operating budget over \$1 million, an ordinance or resolution must be passed biannually establishing the District's method of disclosing potential conflict of interest and substantial interests. This is the District's year to file with the Missouri Ethics Commission prior to September 15, 2021.

The resolution is attached hereto and made a part hereof the minutes to this meeting. After discussion, it was

Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascherman to adopt the Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Fenton Fire Protection District Ethics Policy. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

Mr. Rognan then took a quick minute to review the preliminary assessments. This was for informational purposes as the state tax calculators are not available yet.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Kaminski spoke about the inclement weather on Sunday, July 24, 2021, which included local flash flooding, car accidents and an overall increase in call volume. Chief Kaminski then read a letter of appreciation sent by Chief Jenkerson of the St. Louis Fire Department for assistance with covering their area during an in line of duty firefighter funeral. Lastly, the social media video thanking the citizens for the new Station 3 put together by Lieutenant Jokerst and Private Robben was viewed.

SHOP STEWARD'S REPORT

Shop Steward Boushard was appreciative of the District giving the shed to the Community Outreach and of Minor's Towing for moving it to Station 1 free of charge. Community Outreach wanted do something as a show of gratitude. Minor's Towing did not want anything for their services, so they are putting a thank you out on social media. Community Outreach is working on a new design for this year's cancer awareness t-shirts and have partnered with SSM. There is a possibility SSM employees may wear the t-shirts throughout St. Clare Hospital. Shop Steward Boushard echoed Chief Kaminski's comments about an increased call volume.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 4:00 p.m

There being no further public comment or further business, at 5:25p.m. a motion was made to suspend the regular meeting for purposes of going into Closed Session pursuant to Section 610.021 (1) and (3) RSMo. After discussion, it was

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Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascheman to go into closed session for purposes of privileged communication and personnel subject to Section 621.021 (1) and (3) RSMo. Motion approved and carried 3-0, Viviano – yea, Grimes – yea, Ascheman – yea.

At 5:26 p.m. Director Grimes moved to reopen the regular meeting of the Fenton Fire Protection District Board of Directors.

The Board announced the Fire Chief's process will be posted next week.

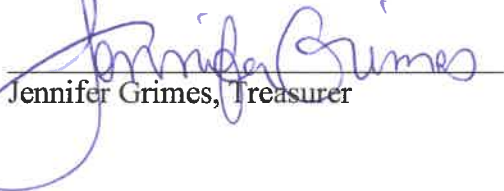
ADJOURNMENT

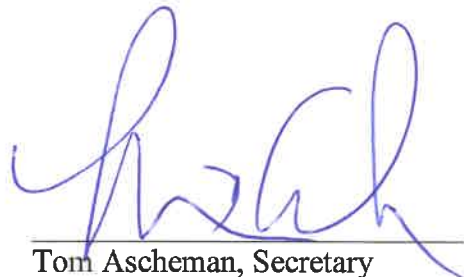
There being no further business before the Board of Directors, at 5:56 p.m., it was

Moved by Director Ascheman, and seconded by Director Viviano to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted and attested to by,


Beth F. Viviano, Chairwoman


Jennifer Grimes, Treasurer


Tom Ascheman, Secretary

