

Fenton Fire Protection District

Meeting of the Board of Directors

September 22, 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, September 22, 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 4:00p.m.

ROLL CALL:

The following Directors answered Roll Call:

Beth L. Viviano
Jennifer Grimes
Tom Ascherman

Also present was:

Romona Kaminski	District Chief
Daniel McLaughlin	District Legal Counsel
Chris Thiemann	Division Chief - District Fire Marshal
Joe Boushard	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 September 8, 2021 were presented. Chairwoman Viviano noted a spelling error in the word Chief in the first paragraph of page four of the regular meeting minutes and it was then

Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascherman to approve the minutes of the regular and closed meeting held September 8, 2021. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

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APPROVAL OF BILLS

Chief Kaminski presented the Board with the bills for review and payment, which totaled \$341,433.34. 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.

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 9/8/21</u>	<u>Balance as of 9/22/21</u>
General	\$5,820,962.45	\$5,627,568.14
Ambulance	\$2,253,752.08	\$2,196,581.48
Dispatch	\$496,532.34	\$494,445.72
Pension	\$206,237.33	\$206,237.33
Capital Projects		
2019	\$10,403,785.81	\$9,548,709.74
Debt Services	\$1,541,008.43	\$1,541,008.43
HRA	\$5,097.22	\$5,097.22
FSA	\$9,934.48	\$8,763.98

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 Thiemann provided an update on the construction projects. He presented pictures of the cinder block walls of the training tower and engine bay of the new Headquarters building. The goal is to have the building under roof before winter. Division Chief Thiemann then

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displayed pictures showing the demolition of the old Station 3. Excavators are now preparing the site for the new parking lot. Odds and ends punch list items are being completed on the new Station 3.

The next item of old business was the COVID report. Deputy Chief McCarthy was not in attendance and Chief Kaminski reported there was no substantial COVID updates to discuss.

**NEW BUSINESS
PUBLIC NOTICE**

Rick Rognan presented the amended property tax rates to be set by the District for the purpose of producing revenues which will budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2022, to be collected from the property tax. Mr. Rognan advised that all rates will be rolled back with Hancock due to the increase in assessments. He further noted that Residential and Personal Property were rolled back by (0.0610) and (0.0120) respectively. The Debt Service rate across the Board will remain at 0.1750. In all there will most likely be 3.45%, or \$565,886 more in total tax assessments to begin the budget for 2022 versus 2021.

Mr. Rognan presented the combined total tax rates for all funds, including General, Pension, Dispatch, Debt Services and Emergency Medical Service for 2022 for each individual tax rate (Residential, Agricultural, Commercial and Personal Property) as follows:

<u>Residential</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>	<u>Commercial</u>	<u>Personal Property</u>
1.3840	1.4490	1.4470	1.5230

Mr. Rognan reviewed the assessment, new construction, and TIF incremental valuations used in the calculations of the tax rates. The new residential tax rate is \$1.3840 per \$100 assessed valuation. For a resident with a \$200,000 home the amount of tax collected breaks down to \$525.92 annually, \$43.83 monthly and \$1.44 per day.

Chairman Viviano called for discussion and public comment, there being none, Resolution 2021-03, the amended property tax rates to be set by the District for the purpose of producing revenues, was presented and after discussion it was

Moved by Director Grimes, and seconded by Director Ascheman to adopt Resolution 2021-03 setting the 2022 tax rates. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

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ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

Mr. Rognan presented the Financial Report and Statements as of August 31, 2021. He indicated that with timing items the District used 60.54% of the general fund budget, or was (6.06%) under budget year to date, or (\$528,539.00); and 66.68% of the ambulance fund budget, or was .08 over budget year to date, or \$2,995.00.

Mr. Rognan indicated that for the eight (8) 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 has a reserve of 15.57 months compared to 12.42 months last year. The cash balance after reserves is \$4,169,716.00 or 4.01 months compared to 1.01 months last year.

Mr. Rognan ended his report by reviewing the monthly and annual call volume. Through August of 2021 compared to 2020, the District has run 46 more fire related incidents and 374 more EMS related incidents.

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 Ascheman to accept and approve the report and financial statements of the District as of August 31, 2021. Motion approved and unanimously carried 3-0.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chairwoman Viviano noted this was Chief Kaminski's first Chief Report as the Fire Chief versus the Interim Chief. Chief Kaminski stated she is thankful for the opportunity and honored to serve the Board of Directors, Local 2665, the Community and the men and woman of the District in her new role as Fire Chief.

Chief Kaminski informed the Board of Directors about numerous serious accidents that have occurred recently on Highway 270. Chief Kaminski requested Battalion Chief Martin to talk about a call ran last Tuesday. Battalion Chief Martin provided details about a heavy rescue incident involving a tractor trailer and a box truck. Other resources on the scene included police and units from the Mehlville Fire Protection District. Battalion Chief Martin expressed what a great job everyone did in executing the rescue and managing the incident.

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Chief Kaminski advised the Board of Directors regarding the trade in versus sale of the LUCAS devices discussed during the September 8, 2021 Board Meeting. Deputy Chief McCarthy researched the options and found there are not many avenues to sell this old equipment. The current recommendation is to trade the equipment in for credit toward the purchase of the new LUCAS3 devices.

Chief Kaminski then spoke to several funeral services the District has participated in over the last couple of weeks. This included the funeral procession for Lance Corporal Schmitz, Volunteer Fenton Firefighter William Parkin and retired Deputy of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department Kirk Ainley. Mr. Parkin volunteered in the 1950's and 1960's served with the rank of Assistant Chief. Mr. Ainley worked as a security officer for the past nine years at SSM Health St. Clare Hospital. Many of the District personnel knew Mr. Ainley from his time as a security officer.

Chief Kaminski discussed recently held events, the Stair Climb 911 and March to the Arch, which personnel from the District participated in.

SHOP STEWARD REPORT

Shop Steward Boushard congratulated Chief Kaminski on her promotion to Fire Chief. The Shop Stewards are planning to meet with Chief Kaminski soon. Shop Steward Boushard stated the Community Outreach golf tournament was held the day before and seemed to be a success. The pink t-shirts are still for sale by the Community Outreach at the ffco.org website. Shop Steward Boushard also inquired if there is a link on our website to access the Zoom meetings. Chief Kaminski stated she would look into this. Lastly, Shop Steward Boushard expressed there is confusion involving what Deputy Chief McCarthy's new role with the District will be. He inquired about having the Operations Committee, Labor and Management meet to discuss this matter. A discussion ensued resulting input from multiple perspectives would be helpful with Administration making the final decisions.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday, October 6, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further public comment or further business, at 4.54p.m. a motion was made to suspend the regular meeting for purposes of going into Closed Session pursuant to Section 610.021 (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 (3) RSMo. Motion approved and carried 3-0, Viviano – yea, Grimes – yea, Ascheman – yea.

At 6:20p.m. Director Grimes moved to reopen the regular meeting of the Fenton Fire Protection District Board of Directors.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Directors, at 6:20p.m., it was

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

Respectfully submitted and attested to by,



Beth L. Viviano, Chairwoman



Jennifer Grimes, Treasurer



Tom Ascheman, Secretary