
Bourbonnais Fire Protection District

Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, March 26, 2024

1080 Armour Road – Station #1

1. **Call to Order:** The Regular Meeting of the BFPD Board of Trustees was called to order by President Myers at 4:03 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** President, Randy Myers; Senior Trustee Paul Grzelak, Treasurer, Bill Hemm; Secretary, Alice Argyelan; Trustee, Rob Casino; Chief, Jim Keener; and, Attorney, John Motylinski.
3. **Public Comment** – President Myers spoke about having a sign-in sheet available for the meetings in case someone shows up and wants to put forth public comments. Attorney Motylinski suggested placing guidelines for public comment per our policy on the Agenda, so attendees know what to expect.
4. **Approval of Minutes:**
A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Trustee Casino at 4:06 p.m. to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2024. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. **Secretary's Report:** Secretary Argyelan reported on the recent Legislative Day in Springfield, commenting on the hospitality, and sharing of time by both Senator Joyce and Representative Haas. Both Ms. Argyelan and President Myers spoke about pending legislation and discussions with our local government officials.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Hemm reported deposit account balances as follows: People's Bank Checking \$311,791.34, Money Market \$102,225.68; and Illinois Funds \$414,017.02. A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Trustee Casino at 4:20 p.m. to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Annual Audit Addressed later in meeting.
7. **Bills for Approval:** Treasurer Hemm called everyone's attention to the \$53,479.93 in vehicle repairs this past month. Discussion ensued. President Myers noted the repair cost per vehicle. Chief reported A64 will soon be placed in reserve. We are awaiting State approval on A60, the application for inspection has been submitted. Treasurer Hemm made a motion, seconded by Secretary Argyelan at 4:18 p.m. to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
8. **Attorney's Report:** Attorney Motylinski reported on the changes to the spending limits for going out for competitive bid changing from \$20,000 to \$30,000 with \$50,000 on equipment purchase. Attorney Motylinski also spoke of House Bill 3908; Firefighters Paid Family Leave Act bills being passed out of committee. Discussion also took place surrounding the proposed National OSHA Fire Brigade Standards, which is now open for public comment. This modernized proposal comes with myriad new requirements/standards and is 250-pages of regulation. There is also a potential of departments having to abide by NFPA standards as well. This will be especially difficult for small, volunteer departments.

9. **Reports:**

- a. Chief's Report: Chief Keener presented everyone with a thorough written report highlighting details of activities and projects he, the Battalion Chiefs, Lieutenants, and EMS Director J. Romein have been and continue to work on.
- b. Andres Billing Report: Chief Keener highlighted the written report. Discussion ensued about the lower rate of reimbursement we have been experiencing recently, which may be caused by a billing issue with Medicaid. Close attention will be paid to these reports to discern if other problems exist and need to be addressed.
- c. Committee Reports:
 - i. Building Grounds – No report provided
 - ii. Birthdays and Anniversaries: Report presented.

10. **Old Business:**

- a. Discuss/Approve Referendum: President Myers briefly recounted work which has been done over the past months to prepare for the potential of a referendum being requested. Public communication was discussed and approved. A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Senior Trustee Grzelak at 4:47 p.m. to approve Ordinance 032624, requesting a referendum to increase the current District tax rate by .21 for an overall rate of .6466. Motion carried by unanimous roll-call vote.

11. **New Business:**

- a. Discuss/Approve Blue Cross Blue Shield Life Insurance Renewal: Chief Keener happily reported BFPD will not experience an increase in the premium for Life/Accidental Death/Disability insurance. A motion was made by Treasurer Hemm, seconded by Secretary Argyelan at 4:51 p.m. to approve continuing with the policy renewal. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- b. Discuss/Approve 100 Riverside Drive Tax Exemption: Following discussion, it was decided to contact other local taxing districts to discern if they will address this issue.
- c. Discuss/Approve Trustee Appointments with County Board: Trustee Casino suggested we address renewals at a time sooner than we have in the past. Moving forward, renewals will be brought to March meetings. A motion was made by Secretary Argyelan, seconded by Trustee Casino to approve recommending to the Kankakee County Board that President Randy Myers and Treasurer William Hemm be reappointed for another 3-year term. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

6. **Treasurer's Report** (Continued) Chief Keener called everyone's attention to the Annual Audit Report. Following discussion, a motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Treasurer Hemm at 5:25 p.m. to approve the annual audit. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Of note, with no action taken – Treasurer Hemm reported he received raffle tickets for the Mabas7 raffle. Trustees all requested tickets to support their efforts.

An annual 360 Degree performance review will begin for Chief Keener.

12. **Closed Session:** None

Adjourn

A motion was made by President Myers, seconded by Senior Trustee Grzelak at 5:27 p.m. to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the BFPD Board of Trustees. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Alice E. Argyelan, Secretary

Randy Myers, President