

**LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2025  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Trustee Joseph Falese called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lemont Fire Protection District to order on December 11, 2025, at 6:00 PM. The meeting was conducted at 15900 New Avenue, Lemont, IL.

Trustee Falese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** On call of roll Trustees Dan Tholotowsky, Michael Smollen, Joe Falese, Raymond Negrete, Linda Bernacchi.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Fire Chief Dan Tasso, Deputy Chief Matt Peksa, Attorney John Motylinski, Recording Secretary Sandy Dominik, Mr. John Falduto.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to approve the November 20, 2025, regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Trustee Negrete read the bill list totaling \$794,306.50. Trustee Negrete made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Mr. John Falduto presented a financial report to the Board. Trustee Negrete made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD:** Trustee Negrete thanked LT. Holtz, and everyone involved in Miracle on Main St. It was a special morning for all & wished everyone Happy Holidays, and grateful to all for their loyal and dedicated service day in and day out. Trustee Tholotowsky reminded all to keep the wreath red this holiday season by watering Christmas trees, not to overload outlets and candle with care. Trustee Falese expressed deep appreciation to all residents who supported the Referendum and wished everyone a joyous and safe holiday season.

**ATTORNEY REPORT:** Attorney Motylinski wished everyone Happy Holidays.

**CHIEF'S REPORT:** Deputy Chief Peksa reminded all to keep their hydrants clear from snow in case of emergency response. DC Peksa informed the Board the new engine graphics and radios have been installed and hopes to be put in service by mid-January. We went on 341 calls in November, a slight increase from last year's, 316. He would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and looking forward to an exciting 2026. DC Peksa reported that the District is exploring a community risk reduction program called "Pulse Point", which allows for members of the community to be alerted to any cardiac problem in their area to which a trained member of the

community may be able to assist their neighbor before first responders arrive. Early CPR is a crucial life saving measure and will be reporting more developments in bringing this resource to Lemont.

Fire Chief Tasso thanked all who attended Christmas with Santa, and the Firefighter's union for sponsoring. Chief thanked the Lemont Garden Club for providing the holiday wreaths for all the stations which participated in "Keep the Wreath Red". This month, Chief recognized, Lt Fischer, Lt Palcu, and FF Armor on their 25th work anniversaries, & Lt Kingman (16). Chief announced Mark Armor will be retiring January 14<sup>th</sup> and invited all to his walk out ceremony to celebrate his 35-year total service career in the fire service. In a construction update, Chief stated that we are continuing to work with FGMA on the completion of the design documents. They made their first presentation to the zoning board and intend to attend the Lemont Village Committee of the Whole meeting on December 15<sup>th</sup> for discussion of Station One plans and expect Village approval by January. Still waiting for final approval from Cook County and the Water Reclamation District, however, are still on track for construction bids to go out mid-January, and construction starting in Spring. Chief announced that the District was awarded a \$10,000.00 grant from the Citgo's CAER program and will be using these grant funds to purchase a gear dryer. Chief thanked Citgo for their continued commitment to firefighter safety through grant funding decisions.

**BUDGET HEARING:** A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to open the meeting to the public at 6:19 PM for comments with regards to the Budget fiscal year 2026, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried. No member of the public addressed the Trustees on the proposed Budget and Appropriations; therefore, a motion was made by Trustee Negrete at 6:21 to close the hearing, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to adopt Ordinance 25-03, Budget for fiscal year 2026, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the purchase of replacement GPS and G5 antennas with Step CG, LLC in the amount of \$5,001.12, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve the purchase of AV Technology with Avi-SPL, equipment, installation and 3 year support in the amount of \$263, 180.99, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve FGMA invoice 23-3857.02-5, in the amount of \$258,588.00, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to adopt Ordinance 25-04, Levying and assessing taxes of LFPD Cook, DuPage, and Will Counties, as presented, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to adopt Ordinance 25-05, Abating the tax Heretofore Levied for the year 2025 to pay debt service on \$3,550,000.00 General Obligation Bonds, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve non-union raises, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to adopt Resolution 25-06, BOT schedule of regular meetings FY 2026, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve the 2026 GEMT rate for EMS billing, effective January 1, 2026, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM on a motion made by Trustee Bernacchi, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

Approved as is / amended by the Board of Trustees on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Falese, President

ATTEST:

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Linda Bernacchi, Secretary