

**LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF MARCH 16, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

CALL TO ORDER: Trustee Victoria Cobbett called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Lemont Fire Protection District to order on March 16, 2023, at 6:00 PM. The meeting was conducted at 15900 New Avenue, Lemont, IL.

Trustee Cobbett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: On call of roll Trustees Victoria Cobbett, Ray Negrete, Linda Bernacchi, and Dan Tholotowsky. Trustee Joe Falese was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT: Fire Chief Dan Tasso, Deputy Chief Matt Peksa, Deputy Chief John Truffa, Recording Secretary Lisa Gabor, and Attorney John Motylinski.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Mr. Lee asked the Board if we were building a new fire station, if we were buying land in Lemont, and if it would affect resident's taxes. Board President Vicki Cobbett answered all questions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to approve, under consent agenda, the February 16, 2023, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Negrete read the bill listing totaling \$1,546,452.21. Trustee Bernacchi made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Tholotowsky would like to give his condolences to the family of Captain Gary Wilson and the family of Mark Blackaller, former Lemont Fire Marshal. Trustee Tholotowsky would like to remind everyone that March is severe weather preparedness month. He also stated House Bill #2121 would amend the fireworks bill legalizing sparklers. He stated we have preached during every Fire Prevention Week and in July how dangerous sparklers are. He stated there is a House Bill and a Senate Bill regarding financial reimbursement from the State to those who install a residential home fire sprinkler.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Motylinski added that the fireworks bill amendment is sitting in the House and passed the house by 7-2. There are 2 more reads before it gets sent to the Senate. Attorney Motylinski updated the Board on Senate Bill 1306 regarding body cameras being worn by all EMS personnel, looks like it will not pass. He updated them on a major Legislative change to the Paid Leave for All Workers Act that was signed 2 days ago. The Bill requires all full-time employees who work 40

hours a week to receive 40 hours of vacation time. Part-time employees are also due prorated vacation time based on their hours worked.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Truffa stated he and IT Manager Fernando Alfonso worked with Xfinity to increase fiber optic speeds at all stations and were able to come in under budget. Deputy Chief's Peksa and Truffa have been handling the building and grounds maintenance. They will start the process to hire a new Facilities Manager sometime in April. Deputy Chief Truffa would like to thank everyone, including Fire Chief Tasso, who participates in the Adopt a Firefighter program which the children enjoy. The Special Olympics practice has started again. We send a company every Tuesday and Thursday for practice until May. Deputy Chief Truffa read a letter from a business owner praising Brian Madden, Fire Inspector, stating he is a nice, professional man.

Deputy Chief Peksa updated the Board the new Tender should be in service sometime in April. The new hires are doing well and working through their first rotation task book skills. The environmental study has been completed on the new properties. The soil stability testing has been pushed back due to the ground conditions. We did not want to cause unnecessary damage by driving on the property. Deputy Chief Peksa informed the board that we have been working with Wescom and Will County on adding Starcom frequencies to our portable radios. Right now we cannot talk to some agencies in Will County. Personnel responded to a total of 301 calls in the month of February. Our Voter which is a critical piece of infrastructure that we use to communicate with Orland-is 20 years old and will need to be replaced. We will budget for it 2024.

Chief Tasso named the employees who received service award pins this year. He updated the Trustees we had one staff member that just came off of workman's comp and we are fully staffed. We have 5 members on probation. One will be coming off probation on April 18th and he will be sworn in at the next months Board meeting. The other 4 on probation are doing very well.

OLD BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Cobbett to approve the IGA with Romeoville for the donation of the 1992 Pierce Dash Engine for \$6000.00 in tuition credits which will be used for new hires to do live fire training, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

A motion was made by Trustee Cobbett to approve the initial employment agreement for Stacy Devitt as a mechanic with a starting salary of \$85,000.00, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion Carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to ratify the purchase of replacement batteries from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$3,477.60 for the portable radios whose batteries are at the end of life, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion Carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the purchase of a vehicle check program, PS Trax, in the amount of \$6,425.00 that will replace Check It/Halligan program, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion Carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

A leasing program for new cardiac monitors with Zoll was discussed. This is a 10-year lease program for 4 new cardiac monitors in 2024 and in 5 years they will be replaced with updated monitors. This also includes routine maintenance and supplies. A motion was made by Trustee Cobbett to approve a 10-year lease at \$45,000.00 a year, with Zoll, for 4 new cardiac monitors, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion Carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

CLOSED SESSION: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM on a motion made by Trustee Tholotowsky, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Cobbett, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried. Absent from the vote; Trustee Falese.

Approved as is / amended by the Board of Trustees on the ____ day of _____, 2023.

Victoria Cobbett, President

ATTEST:

Joseph Falese, Secretary