

**LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF AUGUST 17, 2023
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 August 17, 2023, 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 Joe Falese, Raymond Negrete, Dan Tholotowsky, Linda Bernacchi and Michael Smollen.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to approve the July 20, 2023, regular meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Negrete read the bill list totaling \$952,956.56. Trustee Bernacchi made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried.

AUDIT PRESENTATION: Trustee Falese invited our auditor, Mr. Lou Karrison to review our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) FY 2022. Mr. Karrison stated the District has been awarded the certificate of excellence in financial reporting for FY 2021. Mr. Karrison reviewed the financial highlights of the 2022 fiscal year ACFR. He stated fiscal year 2022 net pension liability increased by \$10,458,962.00 from prior year, mostly due to investment returns. He stated the pension funding level is at 73.44%. He stated the District exceeded its liabilities by \$(2,452,053.00). During 2022 the District's total net position increased by \$2,823,218.00. As of December 31, 2022, the District reported combined ending fund balances of \$9,418,522.00, an increase of \$2,756,868.00 from the prior year. Of this amount the general and ambulance funds had a combined ending fund balance of \$5,993,564.00 (unassigned), tort liability fund had an ending fund balance of \$(218,648.00), other special revenues funds had an ending balance of \$144,376.00, capital projects fund had an ending fund balance of \$3,479,529.00 and the debt service had an ending balance of \$19,701.00. For fiscal year 2022 the net pension liability of \$39,933,164.00 is reflected in our financial statements on the balance sheet. He stated that our financial statements presented fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information for the Lemont Fire District. A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve the fiscal year 2022 annual comprehensive financial report, as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve the Treasurer's Annual Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for FY 2022, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Tholotowsky wanted to remind everyone, now that schools are back in session, to drive carefully and cautiously. Trustee Smollen attended the rededication of the Danish Cemetery on July 3rd and stated there was a good turnout.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Motylinski instructed the Board to begin Decennial Committee meetings at any time. He informed the Board that there has been a change to PSEBA. If there is a catastrophic injury the insurance premium is paid for the employee and their family by the Fire District until the age of 65. The employee also can choose which insurance plan they want. The legislature is out of session and will return in October. He will keep the Board updated on anything that affects the District.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Deputy Chief Truffa informed the Board that we have our order in to Ford for a new ambulance. Hopefully, we will get the chassis at the beginning of 2024. Personnel responded to a total of 394 calls in July. This is an increase from last year of 355 calls. Hydrant inspections are more than 80% complete for the year. Major issues were found with the hydrants on Main Street, and we are working with the Village of Lemont on a solution. Lemont High School inspections have been completed and Dist. 113A schools will be completed after the school year starts. Sandy is working on the Open House that will be held on September 30th from 11:00 to 2:00 this year. Fire Marshal Jen Murray is working with St Cyril's to have all inspections done for their Summer Fest

Chief Tasso would like to recognize Lt Jeff Bailey and FF Mike Brown who have work anniversaries this month. Chief Tasso shared with the Board a thank you letter that we received from Troy FPD for responding to a change of quarters Box Alarm in July. Chief Tasso let the Board know that NIAFPD is holding a seminar on 10/21/23 from 8 am-12 pm. Essential Trustee training will be held in West Chicago on Nov 3rd and 4th. This program is for new trustees. Let Lisa or Carla know if you want to attend. Chief Tasso reminded the Board that his current contract is due to expire in November and the contract extension will be voted on during the October meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Due to the RFID reader being on back order for close to a year, we will table this item for tonight's meeting.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to enter closed session at 6:27 PM for discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of an employee, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried.

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting reconvened at 6:52 PM on a motion by Trustee Bernacchi, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM on a motion made by Trustee Bernacchi, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried.

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

Joseph Falese, President

ATTEST:

Linda Bernacchi, Secretary