

**LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 09, 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 November 9, 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 Joseph Falese, Ray Negrete, Linda Bernacchi, Michael Smollen, and Daniel Tholotowsky.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee Smollen. 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 Negrete to approve, under consent agenda, the October 19, 2023, regular meeting minutes and October 19, 2023, closed session minutes, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. 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 listing totaling \$1,399,634.04. Trustee Tholotowsky made a motion to approve the Treasurer's 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.

James Howard presented to the Board a power point presentation and financial report with the year-to-date expenses and revenues through 10/31/23.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Tholotowsky wanted to remind people that "cooking safety starts with you" and to practice fire safety while cooking. Remember to change your batteries in your fire detectors or replace them with new 10-year smoke detectors. Veterans Day is coming up and Trustee Tholotowsky would like to thank all Veterans including those that work here.

ATTORNEY REPORT: None

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Matt Peksa informed the Board that we have received grant money in the amount of \$2,300 from OneOk, \$2,000 from Exxon Mobile, and \$1,000 from Illinois American Water. The majority of that money will go towards Mass Casualty Kits to put on the ambulances. We responded to 384 calls in the month of October. This is an increase over last year's 335 calls.

Deputy Chief Truffa attended a meeting with Will County Emergency Management and is trying to get a Port-Security Grant pushed through to have a boat launch in our area rescues. We have an April delivery for our new 2024 ambulance chassis. He let the board know that the new Facility Manager Steve Bacho is doing very well. Effective November 13th the Village of Woodridge adopted the 2021 Fire

Code. The on-duty personnel handed out candy in the neighborhoods throughout Lemont during Trick or Treating. The Firefighters enjoy this as much as the kids do.

Fire Chief Tasso would like to recognize DC Peksa and FF Craig Newmes on their work anniversaries this month. FF's Gordon, Ingram, and Romo-Martinez have completed their probation and will be sworn in at the December Trustee meeting. Chief Tasso shared with the Board the thank you letters that we received. WE currently have 17 community members that have expressed interest in joining our facilitating team and we hope to have our first meeting in December. The staff will be going to the Lemont Park District to serve lunch to the Veteran's at the Core. On Saturday will be participating in the VFW Veteran's Day service.

BUDGET HEARING: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to open the meeting to the public at 6:21 PM for comments with regards to Ordinance 23-06, Budget fiscal year 2024, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Motion carried. Recording Secretary Gabor stated the 30 day budget notice was published and a copy of the proposed budget has been available to the public. Chief Tasso stated the budget presented tonight for approval is the same one the Board reviewed in detail at a special meeting earlier tonight. No member of the public addressed the Trustees on the proposed Budget and Appropriations Ordinance 23-06 for fiscal year 2024; therefore, a motion was made by Trustee Falese to close the hearing at 6:22 PM, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to adopt Ordinance 23-06, Budget and Appropriations for fiscal year 2024, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to Adopt Ordinance 23-08, an Ordinance abating the tax heretofore levied for the year 2023 to pay debt service on \$3,550,000.00 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2020, of the Lemont Fire Protection District as presented, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to adopt Ordinance 23-05, an ordinance amending the LFPD Board of Trustees rules and regulations by establishing a salary range for authorized employment positions as presented, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to adopt Ordinance 23-09, Board of Trustee schedule of regular meetings for 2024, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to amend Lexipol policy #1003.18, Administrative Assistant job description, by eliminating the Executive Assistant position and adjusting the clerical and HR responsibilities as needed, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to ratify the replacement of the fire alarm panel and devices for Station 4 with Cross Points Sales, in the amount of \$7,099.00, seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to ratify the annual emergency generator inspections, load tests and repairs for the emergency generators at each station with Metro Power, for the amount of \$3,890.75, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to ratify the purchase of supplies and equipment for the new HazMat vehicle with ULINE, in the amount of \$3,617.00, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to ratify the purchase of supplies and equipment for the new HazMat vehicle with Home Depot in the amount of \$3,864.61, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

LEVY HEARING: A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to open the meeting to the public at 6:30 PM for comments with regards to Ordinance 23-07, Tax Levy Tax Year 2024, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried. Chief Tasso stated we are requesting the sum of \$13,519,665.00 to be levied for the tax year 2023. No member of the public addressed the Trustees on the proposed Ordinance 23-07 Tax Levy; therefore, a motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to close the hearing at 6:31 PM, seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to adopt Ordinance 23-07, Levying and Assessing taxes for tax year 2023, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to enter into closed session at 6:31 PM to discuss wage increases for non-sworn employees, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete, yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Motion carried.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION: The Board approves the recommendations from the Administration for non-union personnel salary range effective 1-1-2024.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM on a motion made by Trustee Tholotowsky, seconded by Trustee Negrete. 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