

LEMONT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 17, 2024
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 October 17, 2024, at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held at 15900 New Avenue, Lemont, IL.

Trustee Falese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. James Howard, via Zoom. IPRF Executive Director Mr. Bob Buse, IPRF Loss Control Consultant, Mr. Bob Tutko, Fire Chief Dan Tasso, Deputy Chief Matt Peksa, Attorney John Motylinski and Recording Secretary Sandy Dominik.

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

IPRF CHECK PRESENTATION: Mr. Bob Buse and Mr. Bob Tutko presented the District a check in the amount of \$37,955.00 for outstanding efforts in the successful completion of the IPRF: Highly Enhanced Loss Prevention program. Mr. Buse commended Lemont Fire District for being proactive in reducing the risk of injuries. Trustee Negrete congratulated the administration and safety committee on this accomplishment

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Tholotowsky to approve September 19, 2024, regular meeting minutes, 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 approve the September 30, 2024, special meeting 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 list totaling \$1,193,342.85. Trustee Negrete made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, 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.

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FINANCIAL REPORT: Mr. James Howard presented to the Board a power point presentation and financial report with the year-to-date expenses and revenues through 9/30/2024. Mr. Howard presented to the Board, the 2024 Proposed Tax Levy. A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to approve James Howard's report, 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 determine the Levy as presented by Mr. Howard, seconded by Trustee Tholotowsky. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Falese congratulated the District on a successful Open House and extended appreciation to the Citizens for Lemont Fire District on their continued campaign efforts. Trustee Tholotowsky expressed sympathies to the Rymkey family on the loss of LFPD Retiree Joe Rymkey. Trustee Tholotowsky thanked Mr. Tom Drez for campaign efforts, and mentioned possible NIAPD legislation change to assess how Protection Districts can collect impact fees. Trustee Tholotowsky encouraged all to consider Minutes Matter while voting in November. Trustee Bernacchi agreed and spoke of legislation initiatives having of a deadline of November 1st for submissions.

ATTORNEY REPORT: Attorney Motylinski spoke of the upcoming statewide FPIF executive Trustee elections, ballots will be mailed out by October 25th and educated the Board on their choice of candidates at the statewide level. He informed the Board, Karl Langhammer is the only candidate representing Fire Protection District and ballots are due by December 1st, 2024. He states the general assembly will be meeting for their veto session next month and does not anticipate any changes but will inform the Board as needed.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Deputy Chief Peksa updated the Board on the Will County IGA and 800 Megahertz Radios and happy to report we are moving toward the goal of completion. One Firefighter will be coming off Worker Comp on November 1st. He stated our community partner, Illinois American Water awarded the District a \$1,000.00 grant to purchase hydrant valves. Deputy Chief Peksa informed the Board, the Cause and Origin vehicle is having issues that may not be worth repairing and vehicle may have to be added as a surplus. The District responded to 340 calls in September and still tracking a 1% increase from last year. He extended condolences to the Rymkey Family and thanked all for attending Joe's services.

Chief Tasso would like to recognize LT's Stasiak, Flood, and Elshareif, FF's Hines, Stefanelli, Orzulak, DeCamp, Rauch, Jager and Bacho on their work anniversaries this month. Chief Tasso thanked our members that stepped up to respond to the M.A.B.A.S Deployment to out-of-state relief efforts. 10 members called in to volunteer to be deployed, ultimately M.A.B.A.S 19 was not called. He stated the Budget approval is slated for December meeting. The Chief gave reports on campaign efforts and highlighted the participation of community partners. Chief Tasso gave Kudos to all for working tirelessly on the Referendum Campaign.

OLD BUSINESS: None

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NEW BUSINESS: A motion was made by Trustee Negrete to release the Closed Session meeting minutes of: 8/17/23, 9/14/23, 9/21/23, 10/19/23, 9/9/23, 1/18/24, 2/15/24, 4/18/24, 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 Bernacchi to approve the intergovernmental agreement with Will County also giving Chief Tasso authority to sign agreement on behalf of the District, 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 Bernacchi to appoint Admin. Assistant Sandy Dominik as Deputy Local Election Officer, seconded by Trustee Negrete 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 renew the service contract with Ready Rebound, in the amount of \$32,454.00, 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 an all-in-one Miller Bobcat 265 AirPak from US Gas in the amount of \$15,502.00, 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 Bernacchi to approve the purchase of Radio Base upgrade from MPSC Inc, in the amount of \$42,739.49, seconded by Trustee Negrete. 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 emergency lighting and radio communication for Chief's vehicle from Fleet Safety in the amount of \$13,119.80, 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 Fire Chief Daniel Tasso's annual evaluation from November 2023 through October 2024 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 Bernacchi to approve the renewal of Fire Chief Daniel Tasso's contract effective 11/14/24 to 11/13/27, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, no. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

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A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to approve the hiring of one Firefighter/Paramedic, seconded by Trustee Smollen. This will fill the current vacancy, bringing the District back to full staff. 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 the hiring of one part time Fire Inspector position, 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 Tholotowsky to ratify the cost of filming and editing of 6 educational referendum videos with Creative Entourage, in the amount of \$9,900.00, seconded by Trustee Negrete Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, no. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Smollen to ratify the service renewal with Target Solutions in the amount of \$7,468.93, seconded by Trustee Negrete. 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 ratify the cost of the first round of advanced gear cleaning and repairs with Gear Wash, in the amount of \$5,522.50 seconded by Trustee Bernacchi. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, no. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried

A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to ratify the cost of the annual Blue Card renewal with Across the Street Productions in the amount of \$5,105.13 seconded by Trustee Smollen. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Bernacchi to enter closed session at 7:03 PM for discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, performance, or dismissal of an employee, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting reconvened at 7:07 PM on a motion by Trustee Negrete, 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 7:08 PM on a motion made by Trustee Bernacchi, seconded by Trustee Negrete. Roll Call: Trustee Tholotowsky, yes. Trustee Smollen, yes. Trustee Falese, yes. Trustee Negrete yes. Trustee Bernacchi, yes. Motion carried

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Approved as is / amended by the Board of Trustees on the _____ day of _____, 2024.

Joseph Falese, President

ATTEST:

Linda Bernacchi, Secretary