

GODFREY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On September 27, 2021, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Godfrey Fire Protection District was held in the Liberty Bank Community Room, 3112 Godfrey Road, Godfrey, Illinois at 7:00 p.m.

Present for the meeting were Trustees Ford, Fischer, and Horn. Fire Chief Cranmer, members of the Fire Department, the Board of Fire Commissioners, and legal counsel for the District were present for the meeting. Also present for portions of the meeting were the Honorable Mike McCormick, President (Mayor) of the Village of Godfrey, and Mr. Rick Merrill, the negotiating representative of Firefighters' Local 1692.

The meeting first turned to announcements. The Chair recognized the Mayor Mike McCormick, who attended the meeting to present a \$50,000 check from the Village of Godfrey to the District pursuant to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the District and the Village for the funding of the District's new KME fire apparatus. Appreciation was expressed by those in attendance to Mr. McCormick and the Village of Godfrey for the Village's financial support of the District and the assistance provided in acquiring the new apparatus. Thereafter, Mayor McCormick departed the meeting with the thanks of the Board.

The Chair next called for the opening of bids for the replacement of the roof at Fire Station No. 2. The Chief opened the bids. There were 2 bids. The first bid was from Martin Roofing in the amount of \$79,200.00 with a \$7,500.00 alternate addition for tuckpointing. The second bid was from Lakeside Roofing in the amount of \$69,678.00 with alternative amounts for tuckpointing, new gutters, and length of warranty. The Chair directed the Fire Chief to review the bids with Mr. Estes and to return a recommendation to the Board. Thereafter, a consultation will be conducted with the Village of Godfrey since the Village will be taking title to the No. 2 station upon the completion of construction of the new fire station being built by the District.

The meeting next turned presentation of the minutes of the prior meeting of the Board held on August 30, 2021 following recess from August 23, 2021. A motion was made by Mr. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Horn, and unanimously approved, to approve the minutes as presented.

The meeting next turned to the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Fischer reported that the General-Emergency & Rescue-FICA/Medicare Fund had cash on hand at August 1, 2021 of \$828,959.45; receipts during the month of \$316,200.23; and disbursements during the month of \$106,909.75 leaving a balance at August 31, 2021 in that Fund of \$1,038,249.93. He also reported the Audit Fund had a balance at August 31, 2021 of \$99,9498.69; and the Insurance Fund had a balance of \$633,261.45, making the District's total cash balance at August 31, 2021 \$1,771,461.07. The Treasurer also reported the Cash on Hand Distribution Report and the Fund Designation Report. It was noted for record that the Treasurer's Report also included the General-Emergency & Rescue-FICA/Medicare Fund Budget Comparison Report as of August 31, 2021; the August 2021 Expenditure Report by Budget Line Item; the Audit Fund Financial Statement as of August 31, 2021; the Insurance Fund Financial Statement as of August 31, 2021; the Pension Fund Financial Statement as of August 31, 2021; the Bond Project Fund as of August 31, 2021; the Agency Fund Financial Statement as of August 31, 2021; the Tax Receipts Summary and Disbursement Report through August 25, 2021; the Receipts & Disbursements YTD Comparison Report for August 2021; and the Detail-Receipts & Disbursements Report for August 2021. Mr. Fischer also reported on the current holdings in Liberty Bank, Carrollton Bank, and CNB Bank & Trust in the Bond Proceeds Accounts with those financial institutions. Thereafter, a motion was made by Mr. Horn, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

A motion was then made by Mr. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Horn and unanimously approved to approve the payment of District bills as same come due in the normal course of business in accordance with the bill payment procedure of the District.

The Treasurer noted that a loan payment will be made from the \$50,000.00 contribution of the Village of Godfrey with respect to the KME apparatus acquisition. He noted that the loan payment is in the amount of approximately \$42,000.00, but he is recommending that the full \$50,000.00 be applied against the loan to reduce the principal balance further. A motion was made by Mr. Fischer to that effect, seconded by Mr. Horn, and unanimously approved.

It was noted that the annual audit had been completed, however, the Board will review same for consideration at its next meeting. It was also noted for record that the Statement of Receipts and Disbursements for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2021 and Ending April 30, 2021 had been completed and will be filed with the County Clerks with copies being furnished to the Board for review.

The meeting next turned to the report of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Mr. Sherman reported that a special meeting had been held just prior to the Board of Trustees meeting that evening and that it had approved the retesting of Firefighter applicant Zachary Botterbush for retesting based upon an ADA request for accommodation due to a reading disability. He reported that Mr. Clemons and Chief Cranmer will be arranging for he retesting. Other applicants will be notified of the delay with regard to the eligibility list.

The meeting next turned to the President's Report. Mr. Ford reported that he had attended the Volunteer Firefighters Benefit Summit Meeting in Indianapolis where COVID had been the main topic of discussion. He also attended a Board meeting of the Illinois Firefighters Association In Champaign where discussion again centered COVID matters. He noted that letters had been drafted asking for clarification of requirements and seeking extended deadlines for compliance with regard to COVID vaccination and testing requirements.

The meeting next turned to the Fire Chief's Report. The Chief presented his report in written form and orally reported to the Board.

The Chief reported there were 235 calls during August of which 192 consisted of rescue/EMS calls.

Under personnel, the Chief reported that no members are currently infected with COVID-19. He reported that 5 candidates tested for eligibility and 3 passed the examination.

Turning to grants/revenue/donations, the Chief advised that the AFG grant application remains pending. He reported that reimbursement for the Phillips 66 hazmat incident in the amount of \$21,355.00 had been received. He noted that the 2 thermal imaging camera which had been approved at the prior meeting by the Board had been ordered. He advised that the \$1,000 grant application to Illinois American Water Company had been submitted to seek funding for replacement of 5 inch fittings.

An application for a small equipment grant is being prepared and will be submitted to the Office of the State Fire Marshal to obtain a CPR device and gear extractor.

The Chief advised that the insurance company had made payment for the damage to Unit 1422.

Regarding stations/apparatus/equipment, the Chief advised that Unit 1410 is at Brighton Auto Body; that new Unit 1400 is scheduled to be in assembly in September; and that Unit 1422 is in Litchfield for warranty and accident repairs. He reported that Fire House Software,

which the District uses for recordkeeping, will no longer be supported after January 1, 2022, and the officers are reviewing alternative software.

The Chief noted that the roofing bids for Station No. 2 had been opened earlier in the meeting and that there had been several inquiries prior to the bid submission date regarding the project.

The Chief reported that business inspections are going forward.

Under special notes, the Chief again noted that the 2 thermal imaging cameras have been ordered. He advised that he will be on vacation on October 9. He reported regarding the attendance at the Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Springfield had taken place with 6 Fire Department members attending. He noted that Assistant Chief Wills was part of the Honor Guard and that the Alton Fire Department provided a volunteer crew to man Station No. 2 so that Godfrey on-shift personnel could attend the Memorial Ceremony.

The Chief advised that he had submitted by email to the Board a listing of items which the Department members have put forward for funding by the Bond Issue.

The Chief informed the Board that PPE supplies for COVID protection are in adequate condition at this time, but that some items are on back order.

The Chief confirmed that the 2 stations are continuing to limit public access in the living quarters and requesting that upon entering the stations individuals wash their hands at the bay sinks and that face coverings be used if a 6 foot distancing cannot be maintained.

Under action items. The Chief reiterated that "red" truck maintenance items should be addressed where possible as a priority.

The Chief requested approval for the annual POC uniform purchase allowance.

The Chief advised that the door codes at the 2 stations will shortly be changed for security reasons.

The Board next took up the request for the POC uniform purchase allowance. There was discussion regarding the estimated cost which was in the range of \$3,000.00. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved for an allowance of up to \$3,000.00 as needed to fund the annual POC uniform purchases.

In response to a question, the Chief advised that Unit 1422 is currently in the body shop for repairs due to an accident with that unit. He also noted that as a matter of information that the factory where Unit 1422 was built will be closed down by the manufacturer, KME.

The meeting next turned to the Attorney's Report. There was no report.

The meeting next turned to public comments. There were no public comments.

The meeting next turned to other matters.

It was noted for record that the station maintenance and repair had been discussed earlier in the meeting.

It was noted that there were no bond issue matters for discussion or action.

The attorney reported regarding the status of acquisition of the Highway House property and difficulties with regard to the title to that property due to deficiencies in the tax sale procedures which have been identified by the title insurance underwriters. He noted that he is continuing to work with the title company and the Madison County State's Attorney's office in an effort to correct this matter.

The meeting next turned to discussion of owner representation services in connection with the construction of the new station and a proposal from North Star was presented. After discussion, upon motion of Mr. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Horn, and unanimously approved, the proposal of North Star for owner representation services in connection with the construction of a new fire station was unanimously approved for acceptance.

The meeting next turned to a brief discussion regarding the scope of the architect's services and comments about the materials which had been presented by the architect. It was noted that there is no provision for radio tower or sprinklering of the station.

The meeting next turned to discussion of construction management services for the new fire station and it was noted that the next step following the engagement of North Star and FGM will be to complete a request for proposals for construction management services.

The meeting next turned to consideration of purchase of Zoll cardiac monitors. The Board heard from Assistant Chief Wills regarding the status of the current monitors of the District which were noted to be out of date by 3 years and which cannot be repaired at this time. He noted that functionality is now a problem with some data being missed and that the new medical director is requiring data on all calls. The Chair suggested that the Board return to this topic following the discussion of a COVID-19 policy.

The Board next considered the adoption of a COVID-19 policy based upon the issuance of two recent additional Executive Orders by the Governor. The attorney reported that an emergency regulation had also been issued on the prior Friday by the Illinois Department of Public Health which follows the Executive Orders in mandating that all EMS personnel be vaccinated against COVID-19 unless an application for a medical or religious exemption is made

and approved and with all personnel to be tested on an ongoing basis until fully vaccinated or while being unvaccinated pursuant to an exemption. A draft policy was presented to the Board based upon the requirements of the Executive Order. The Fire Chief reported that only 4 or 5 members of the Department have been vaccinated on the paid staff. He does not have information regarding POCs. At this time, a demand to bargain was submitted by Local No. 1692 seeking collective bargaining of the question of requiring vaccination. There followed extensive discussion and dialogue between the Board and members of the Department and their union representative, Mr. Merrill. There followed discussion followed regarding the question of bargaining the matter of COVID-19 vaccination. Legal counsel for the District indicated that because the vaccination requirement is imposed by Executive Order and now by regulation, it is not subject to bargaining, but that impact bargaining may be available with regard to the administration and logistics, as well as other aspects of the vaccination process and compliance with the Executive Order mandate and regulation. Additional discussion followed with views being exchanged. Thereafter, a motion was made to review the matter further and to defer until the next meeting with existing COVID protocols to be followed until such time. The motion was unanimously approved.

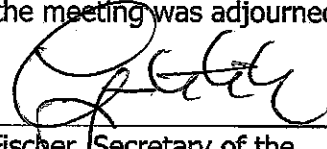
The meeting next turned to the question of purchasing the Zoll cardiac monitors. A motion was made by Mr. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Horn, and unanimously approved to purchase the Zoll monitors pursuant to the quote obtained and with the purchase to be made by a joint purchasing arrangement utilizing bond issue funds.

The meeting next turned to the good of the order. There were no matters to be taken up.

The meeting next turned to discussion and action regarding personnel matters. The meeting moved to closed session to discuss collective bargaining matters pursuant to Section 2 (c) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act with a motion made by Mr. Fischer, seconded by Mr. Horn, and unanimously approved.

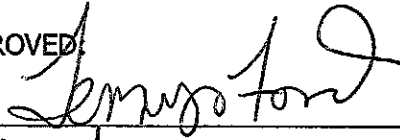
Following the conclusion of the closed session at approximately 9:50 p.m., the meeting returned to open session. The Chair reported that during closed session negotiations had occurred with Local 1692, but that no action or final decisions had been made.

Thereafter, there being no further, or other, business to come before the meeting, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.



Gerard Fischer, Secretary of the  
Board of Trustees

APPROVED:



Being all of the Trustees of the  
Godfrey Fire Protection District