

GODFREY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On January 2, 2019, a special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Godfrey Fire Protection District was held at Fire Station No. 1, 6011 Godfrey Road, Godfrey, Illinois pursuant to posted notice.

Present for the meeting were Trustees Rynders, Hand, and Ford. Fire Chief Kambarian, members of the Fire Department, sales representatives for the KME and Pierce dealerships, members of the public, and legal counsel for the District were also present for the meeting.

The Chair first announced the public comments would be deferred to last item of business for the meeting.

The Chair next recognized Mr. Ford who read a statement to the meeting regarding cooperation between the Fire Department and the Board of Trustees in conjunction with budgeting, staffing, and procurement matters.

The meeting next turned to consideration of the modification of the POC Points Policy which the Chief had submitted to the Board at the last regular meeting. Mr. Ford requested that the matter be deferred to the regular meeting in January to be considered with the other two standard operating procedures which have been issued by the Chief. The Chief asked that the policy be taken up so that it could be disseminated in January. The Chair indicated that the policy would be considered at the January regular meeting.

The Board next took up the request of Assistant Chief McBride for usage of his unused vacation days on a carryover basis due to his medical condition. A motion was made by Mr. Ford, seconded by Mr. Hand, and unanimously approved, to allow Mr. McBride to carryover his unused vacation days due to his medical situation.

The meeting next turned to consideration of the fire apparatus bids which had been discussed at the December regular meeting. The Chair noted that the Truck Committee had recommended to the Board the purchase of a fire apparatus from KME at a cost of approximately \$494,000.00. Materials were disseminated to the Board regarding the financing of a purchase under varying terms. A proposal from Community Leasing to finance the \$494,000.00 purchase for terms of 5, 7, or 10 years was presented. It was noted that the annual cost for this proposal on a 10 year term basis would be approximately \$60,000.00. Information was submitted from Carrollton Bank and Liberty Bank for the financing of \$455,000.00 on various alternatives including a 10 year repayment schedule, a repayment

schedule based on an annual payment of \$50,000.00, and an estimate of how much could be borrowed for a truck purchase at an annual payment of \$50,000.00 per year for 10 years. It was noted that the two banks had indicated a capacity to borrow between \$421,000.00 and \$428,000.00, depending upon the interest rate terms with an annual payment of \$50,000.00 for 10 years. There followed discussion regarding the information which had been submitted as well as the cost of the proposed truck as compared to other bid proposals from KME and Pierce at a cost of approximately \$399,000.00 which both manufacturers had proposed through their dealers. Mr. Hand suggested that in order to purchase the truck recommended by the Truck Committee, the District should reduce the optional items listed by the Committee to lower the KME price to approximately \$455,000.00, finance the transaction at an annual payment of \$50,000.00 per year for 10 years with an eleventh year to be added to the loan term. He suggested that attrition within the Department should reduce personnel costs over that period of time. The Chief suggested that the Department could accept Mr. Hand's cost adjustment to the purchase price of the truck. Mr. Hand then made a motion to purchase the KME apparatus at a cost of approximately \$455,000.00 with financing at \$50,000.00 per year for 10 years with an 11 year financing term and the District to fund the final year payment with District funds.

The Chief suggested that various donations had been made to the District for the purchase of a fire apparatus in the approximate amount of \$14,000.00 which could be applied to the purchase price.

The Chair recognized Mr. Hamburg who suggested that the Truck Committee was proposing a "20 year truck". He reviewed the expenditures by the District on truck repairs which the District has been incurring and which should be reduced with a new truck.

Mr. Ford inquired of the KME representative who was present at the meeting whether there was any possibility for a price adjustment on the truck selected by the Truck Committee. Mr. Russell indicated none at this time on this truck. He also opined that existing trucks could be sold to apply against the cost of the new truck.

Mr. Hamburg was recognized and noted that the KME truck was the only truck which met the specifications of the District as initially proposed. He noted that the frame rails had been a factor taken into account.

Mr. Ford noted that there were two trucks that were within the monetary limits of the District, one submitted by Pierce and one by KME. These were eliminated according to Mr.

Hamburg because the engine which was specified for those trucks did not meet the District's requirements.

There followed discussion regarding the Pierce engine and the representative of Pierce, Mr. Yurgec, was recognized. He described the apparatus with this particular engine and its characteristics. He offered to provide an opportunity for members of the Truck Committee to examine this vehicle. Mr. Russell commented regarding the experience of his dealership with the Ford engine in question. He then suggested a \$399,995.00 alternate truck which his dealership had bid could be equipped with a 425-horsepower engine at the same price. The Chair recognized Firefighter Wilson who stated that the Pierce truck would still not meet specifications on other bases of evaluation. Firefighter Wills suggested that the solicitation had indicated that no exceptions would be allowed and the Pierce and KME trucks with the Ford engine would not meet the requirements. The Pierce representative indicated he was willing to withdraw his company's bid with the permission of the District and he acknowledged the expressed concerns of the Fire Department. He suggested a re-bidding in which the engine issue could be addressed. Mr. Ford suggested there should be a comparison of the Pierce and the KME trucks. Mr. Hamburg indicated that this had occurred. Mr. Hand reiterated that his motion called for an adjustment to accept the KME with the base bid price of \$441,000.00 with three additional items to be included. The Chair recognized Mr. Clemons who suggested that donated money should be used for the truck. Mr. Hamburg suggested that the proposal offered by Mr. Hand was the best resolution of the matter. Mr. Ford expressed concern regarding spending funds in excess of what the Village of Godfrey has committed. Mr. Hamburg again noted the savings which are anticipated in maintenance expenses. There followed discussion regarding the sale of existing equipment and there was further dialog regarding funding the payment. The Chair recognized the attorney who reviewed the financial status of the general fund and its generation of revenues with limitations created by the equalized assessed value of the District and the rate limits on that fund. There was discussion regarding the impact of staffing on the general fund and the potential for staff reductions. Mr. Ford again commented that the District should purchase the truck solely with funds provided by the Village of Godfrey. There was further discussion regarding donations which had been received and the sale of apparatus. The two sales representatives present suggested that a re-bidding could potentially result in a truck and price which would be acceptable. Mr. Rynders commented that he did not desire to have an additional payment at year 11.

The Chair then declared that as there was no second to Mr. Hand's motion, the motion had, therefore, died.

Mr. Ford made a motion to reject all of the bids which had been received and to solicit new bids with a maximum not to exceed the price of \$421,000.00. Mr. Hand seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Mr. Ford and Mr. Rynders voting in favor of the motion and Mr. Hand voting against the motion.

The meeting next turned to discussion regarding the financing of the apparatus purchase, however, the Chair indicated that this would be deferred pending the re-bidding on the apparatus.

The meeting next turned to Department staffing and budgetary issues. Mr. Ford indicated that he was willing to retain the current staffing arrangements at this time in order to "ride the storm out" with a decision to be made at a later date if necessary due to budgetary considerations.

The meeting next turned to public comments. The Chair recognized Mrs. Rynders who suggested fundraising to assist in the acquisition of apparatus.

The Chair recognized Mr. Ford who made a motion to direct the Chief to modify the apparatus requirements to a \$421,000.00 cap on the price of the apparatus. Mr. Hand seconded that motion and it was approved unanimously.

The Chair recognized Mr. Clyde Wiseman who commented regarding the situation.

Thereafter, there being no further, or other, business to come before the meeting, upon motion of Mr. Ford, seconded by Mr. Hand, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned.

Terry L. Ford, Secretary of the
Board of Trustees

APPROVED:

Being all of the Trustees of the
Godfrey Fire Protection District