

GODFREY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

On November 25, 2019, the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Godfrey Fire Protection District was held in the Community Room of Liberty Bank, 3112 Godfrey Road, Godfrey, Illinois at 7:00 p.m. pursuant to the regular meeting schedule of the Board.

In attendance were Trustees Fischer, Rynders, and Ford. Also present for the meeting were the members of the Board of Fire Commissioners, members of the public, members of the Fire Department, and legal counsel for the District.

Mr. Ford chaired the meeting and Mr. Fischer acted as Secretary for the meeting. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The Chair first called for announcements, presentations, and public comments. Mr. Delbert Clemons was recognized and reported to the meeting that a compilation of materials had been assembled by the wife of Firefighter Estes relating to Captain Jake Ringering consisting of news articles and correspondence. He suggested to those attending the meeting that they should review the compilation and he commended Mrs. Estes for her efforts. The Board echoed his thanks for this undertaking. It was also announced that Capt. Jake Ringering had been designated as Firefighter of the Year at the Telegraph's Best of the Riverbend Program.

The Chair next called for presentation of and approval of the minutes of the meeting held on October 28, 2019 and upon motion of Mr. Rynders, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved, the minutes were approved as presented.

The Chair next called on the Treasurer for his report. The Treasurer presented the Financial Statement for the District which reflected cash on hand at October 1, 2019 in the General-Emergency & Rescue-FICA/Medicare of \$487,355.10, receipts during the month of \$340,710.50, and disbursements during the months of \$161,118.52 leaving a balance at October 31, 2019 of \$666,882.08. He reported that the Audit Fund had a balance of \$98,729.21 at October 1, 2019, receipts during the month of \$3,113.94, and disbursements of \$10,725.00 during the month leaving a balance of \$91,118.15. The Treasurer reported that the Insurance Fund had a balance at October 1, 2019 of \$566,482.54, receipts during the month of \$45,279.61, and disbursements during the month of \$59,143.57 leaving a balance at October 31, 2019 of \$552,618.58. The Treasurer also presented the Cash on Hand Distribution Report

and the Fund Designation Report reflecting total funds at October 31, 2019 of \$1,310,618.81. The Treasurer noted that the Board packet also contained the October 2019 Expenditure Report by budget line item showing year to date and monthly spending along with the line item budget balance; the Audit Fund financial report as of October 31, 2019; the Insurance Fund financial statement as of October 31, 2019; the Pension Fund financial statement as of October 31, 2019; the Agency Fund financial statement as of October 31, 2019; the Tax Receipts Summary and Disbursement Report through October 24, 2019; the Receipts & Disbursements YTD Comparison Report for October 2019; and the Detail Report for Receipts & Disbursements for October 2019. Thereafter, a motion was made by Mr. Rynders, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Mr. Rynders made a motion to pay the bills of the District as same come due during the regular course of business in accordance with the bill payment procedure of the District. Mr. Fischer seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

The Chair next called upon the Board of Fire Commissioners for its report. Mr. Sherman advised that no new business had occurred to report, but that promotional testing is on schedule.

The meeting next turned to the President's Report. The President advised that he had met at length with Fire Department members J. D. Wilson and Ben Hamburg regarding a vehicle replacement needs assessment and Placement plan. He indicated that the status of all of the District's vehicles had been reviewed with a view to developing a report and a plan. The conclusion of the meeting is that in the next 10 to 15-year timeframe, all of the District's vehicles will turn over. There was particular discussion regarding Unit 1452 which is the EMS vehicle and needs to be replaced as soon as possible. Mr. Ford indicated that it would be his recommendation to utilize the designated portion of the general fund for vehicle replacement to accomplish this. He also reported that the Chief's vehicle is in need of significant repairs in the range of a few thousand dollars. He suggested that Unit 1450 will require replacement soon and he commented regarding Unit 1410, the tanker unit, unit 1412, and the brush truck units. He indicated that the reserve vehicle, Unit 1420, would continue to serve in that capacity and would not be replaced. Unit 1422 will be replaced by the new apparatus and should be planned for sale after the new unit is in service. Mr. Ford indicated that there was also a discussion regarding station repairs and improvements with the most significant repair being a needed repair to garage doors at a cost of approximately \$9,800.00 and roof replacements at both

Station 1 and Station 2. He then noted that the District has a zero budget to finance these apparatus replacements and building improvements at this time. He indicated that the District would have two alternatives of either borrowing funds with repayment from the corporate levy or submitting to voters a bond issue proposition. There was further discussion with the President regarding the latter approach. The attorney gave a brief outline of the procedures applicable to submission of a bond issue to voters. Following that discussion, the attorney was requested to contact the Stifel firm regarding further consideration of a bond issue.

The meeting next turned to the Fire Chief's report. There was no report.

The meeting next turned to the Attorney's Report. The attorney reported regarding the passage of legislation to consolidate all downstate fire pension funds and the impact this would have on the District's Pension Fund as consolidation occurs.

The meeting next turned to Old Business.

The meeting considered replacement of Unit 1452. Mr. Hamburg was called upon regarding his estimation of the cost of replacement. After further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Rynders, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved to proceed with replacement of Unit 1452 with an allotment of up to \$60,000.00 from the vehicle replacement fund and with the purchase to be the subject of public bidding if required with the officers and attorney authorized to proceed with public bidding notification if required for the acquisition. In connection with Unit 1452, Firefighter Wilson raised an issue regarding the status of the unit and noted that the unit is currently out of service and pending repairs in the range of \$3,000.00 to return it to operation.

The meeting next turned to adoption of 2019 tax levies. The attorney presented tax levies in the following proposed amounts:

Insurance	\$ 200,000.00
Pension	\$ 616,892.00
Rescue	\$ 357,030.00
Audit	\$ 8,000.00
Social Security	\$ 35,000.00
Corporate (General)	\$1,493,582.00

Upon motion of Mr. Rynders, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved, the 2019 tax levies were approved in the foregoing amounts.

The meeting next turned to New Business. There was no new business.

The meeting next turned to the Good of the Order. It was reported by Department member Estes that the District had received a Godfrey Technology Grant in the amount of

\$25,000.00 which was limited to technical equipment and would be purchased through the Google Store in accordance with the terms of the grant. Upon motion of Mr. Rynders, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved, the purchase of the items from the grant funding was approved.

The meeting next turned to personnel matters. A motion was made by Mr. Rynders, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved to enter closed session pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss personnel matters.

Following the conclusion of the closed session upon a motion made by Mr. Rynders, seconded by Mr. Fischer, and unanimously approved, the meeting resumed open session. Mr. Ford announced that during the closed session, the Board had discussed the status of Luke Warner, PSEBA benefits for Mr. McBride; and PSEBA benefits for the Ringering family. The Board also held an informal interview with Assistant Chief Cranmer regarding the position of Fire Chief.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Mr. Rynders to appoint Eric Cranmer as Fire Chief subject to negotiation of a contract with the District and with the appointment to take effect upon the retirement of Chief Kambarian. Mr. Fischer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

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

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Gerard Fischer, Secretary of the  
Board of Trustees

APPROVED:

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Being all of the Trustees of the  
Godfrey Fire Protection District