

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE VERNON FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

May 16, 2023, AT 4:30 PM at the Vernon Public Library, Vernon, AZ85940

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER 4:34**
2. **ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS** Paul Kovacic, John Vehar, Gregg McClendon present. On the phone Grey Murphy, Randy Mifflin on Zoom
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & PRAYER**
4. **RECOGNITION OF GUESTS** Deputy Chief Mike Norman, Collin DeWitt, Firefighter Brubaker, Captain Starkey
5. **REPORTS & CORRESPONDENCE**
 - A. Financial Report and discussion- Ben Archer-Clowes gave the financial report for April 2023 on zoom. Tax Revenue for April was \$106,084, non-Tax revenue for April was \$56,908, Expenses for April are \$86,716, We ending the month with cash on hand of \$173,977
 - B. Chair Summary- John Vehar reminded the board that the June meeting will be on June 20, at 4:30 starting with the Public Hearing followed by the Board Meeting. The Chair also wanted to acknowledge the birthday of Paul Kovacic, Randy Mifflin, and Chief Dave Niehuis.
 - C. Chief's Report and discussion – Fire Chief Dave Niehuis gave his report. See attachment.
6. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. The Board has reviewed the Financial Report for April 2023
 - B. The Board has reviewed and approve the April 2023 meeting minutes.
7. **BUSINESS**
 - A. **Motion that the Board has approved the consent agenda.** Grey Murphy motioned, Randy Mifflin 2nd, Vote: Yes Unanimous
 - B. **Discussion and possible action: Tentative Budget review and approval.** - Ben Archer-Clowes reviewed the tentative budget with the Board via an excel presentation. Ben Archer-Clowes, Fire Chief Niehuis, Deputy Chief Perrone, Deputy Chief Norman, and Kathy Schlichting answered questions. The consensus of the Board asked Ben that on the Budget for June they would like the Board cost broken out from the training to show transparency to the public. Grey Motioned that they adopted the Tentative budget for 2023-2024 fiscal year with a 3.5 mill rate. Gregg McClendon 2nd Vote: Yes Unanimous
 - C. **Discussion and possible action: Review 2022 Audit by Saunders.** James Saunders on zoom reviewed the Audit with the board. Gregg McClendon motion to accept the 2022 Audit as presented by Saunders. Grey Murphy 2nd, Vote: Yes Unanimous
 - D. **Discussion and possible action: Update on Grants and other funding.** DC Perrone spoke on receiving a grant from f the state for \$390,000 for Adashi for the next 3 years to install tablets and maintain the software for a mapping system for each unit. Fire Chief Niehuis spoke on the 1.4 million dollars that AZ Representative District 7 Dave Marshal allocated from his allotted funds for 2023/2024 fiscal year. Currently, we have no information on the dispersion or use of these funds yet.
 - E. **Discussion and possible action: Disposal of ambulances and long-term CON issues.** Chief Niehuis discussed the pros and cons of keeping the ambulance. The consensus was that we would retain the units as replacement costs would be too significant in the future should we pursue a CON.
8. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC** – Collin DeWitt requested to speak to congratulate the Chief for all he does for the Community and especially his effort in getting the State to allocate 1 million dollar funding to the Fire District. Expressed his appreciation that the board and the chief work so well as a team to benefit the district.
9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS Tower Update and Update on State funding of 1 million.**
10. **ADJOURNMENT 6:20 PM** Motioned to Adjourn by Grey Murphy, 2nd by Randy Mifflin, Vote: Yes Unanimous