

COLUMBUS RURAL FIRE DISTRICT #3
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MONTHLY MEETING Minutes
July 13th, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Curt at 17:42

Present: Curt Robbins, Chuck Kronz, Steve Hopsiter, Debbie Parod, John Patterson

Fire Chief: Rich Cowger **Assistant Chief:** Nick Jacobs **Batt Chief:** Travis Hansen

Admin Assistant: Lisa Westervelt

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVE MINUTES: Minutes for June's meeting were approved.

TREASURER REPORT: The treasurer's report was presented. See attached report. The month's bills were reviewed. **There was a motion made to pay bills in the amount of \$108,794.80. Motion passed unanimously.**

CHIEF REPORT: See attached

MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

NEW MEMBER APPROVAL: **Motion from Deb to approve new members Bengt Rickbeil, Kaylee Cummings. Chuck seconded and the motion was approved.**

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Roof Status** – The roofers will be here this week, or next, depending on the weather. City owns half the building, and therefore city council will pay half of the roofing bill.
- Planning issues
- **Land Purchase updates/ proposal:** Dan came back with a market appraisal, average selling price for comparable is \$124,800, high is \$145,500 and low is \$105,800. Chuck suggested we offer \$125,000 for all of the property, rent it back to her for a period if needed. Also suggested that Dan write up a formal buy/sell agreement and rental agreement if necessary. **Steve made a motion to offer \$125,000, Chuck seconded, and motion was approved.** John suggested we give Chief a range to work within in the event of counter offers and **moved to amend the motion to allow a top end of \$145,000 to allow Chief room to negotiate. Deb seconded the motion, motion was approved.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Audit Report:** There were a few findings to mention.
 - Separation of duties: Shouldn't be included, but is and likely will always be, just because of the size of our department. We have addressed the issue.
 - CC bills w/missing receipts. We are improving in this area, still some room to work.
 - Ambulance receivables tracking: New project we are working on should help us track this better.
- **Preliminary Budget/Wage Discussion**
 - Chief is questioning the \$341,000 in property tax revenues and has asked Joe about it and he says it's right.
 - The proposed budget has built into is 2% wage increase to review, and for the board to approve. For comparison, the City is giving a 1.8% raise.
 - This budget does not include money coming in from CARES Act, and DNRC. Would be an extra \$93,000 from DNRC.
 - The property purchase is also not included in this budget proposal.
 - Curt asked if Chief has a wish list for next year. No big ticket items really: training center work, ambulance (Safer Grant 5% match).
 - Overall about a \$21,000 increase in budget.
 - **There was a motion from Deb to approve the budget as presented. John seconded and the motion was approved. Chief will adjust if the tax numbers are off and rerun numbers if needed. Budget approved with the 2% wage increase.**
- **Surplus Equipment Resolution:** We have a resolution to sign that will allow us to continue to be notified about surplus equipment available. **Deb made a motion to participate, John seconded, and the motion was approved.**

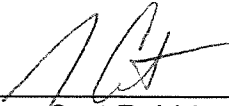
OTHER MEMBERS BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURN: 18:53

NEXT MEETING: August 10th 5:30 PM FIREHALL

Minutes submitted by Chief Rich Cowger



Chairman: Curt Robbins



Secretary: Debbie Parod