

Hampshire Fire Protection District

Board of Trustees

Minutes, April 12, 2023

1. Welcome
2. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at the Hampshire Fire Protection District, 202 Washington St., Hampshire, IL 60140 by Board President, Tim Thompson.

Board Members present: Tim Thompson – Present
Steve Gustafson – Present
Richard Heine – Present
Brian Pechtold – Present
David Scarpino – Present

Administration: Chief Herrmann, Deputy Larson, Cpt Stadie, Jody Remakel

Staff Present:

3. **Additions or changes to the agenda** – The Chief asked to add that the railroad merger be added to new business.

4. **Minutes:**

- a. **Approval of the April 12th, 2023 Regular meeting minutes** – Trustee Heine moved to approve the minutes as presented. Trustee Gustafson seconded the motion and it was approved with 4 affirmative votes. Trustee Scarpino abstained due to his absence in March.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

- a. **Review of the March 2023 warrant list -**

The Board reviewed the March warrant list. There were no questions. Trustee Gustafson commented that there was a lot of money spent this month. Ms. Remakel responded that there were 3 pay periods on the month of March. Trustee Scarpino moved to approve the March warrant list in the amount of \$458,962.21. Trustee Heine seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Brian Pechtold	Aye	Rick Heine	Aye
David Scarpino	Aye	Tim Thompson	Aye
Steve Gustafson	Aye		

- b. **Discussion and Approval of the March 2023 Financials**

Ms. Remakel mentioned that the Debt Service account has been added to the balance sheet. Trustee Gustafson moved to approve the March financials. Trustee Pechtold

seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously by all those present.

Rick Heine	Aye	David Scarpino	Aye
Tim Thompson	Aye	Steve Gustafson	Aye
Brian Pechtold	Aye		

6. Chief's Report

- a. **Purchase of AED** - Chief Herrmann reported that 1413 will go to Station 2. Cpt. Stadie looked into getting an AED and they were supposed to be backordered and take 6 months. The AED arrived early and was therefore purchased for \$3,000 using Memorial monies.
- b. **Legislative Update** - The Chief reported that Gov. Pritzker signed a bill authorizing time off for every 40 hours worked by an employee regardless of status. Shawn Flannery from Ottosen plans to do a seminar explaining how it will work. There is another legislation out there requiring paramedics to wear body cam's which is unfunded, and is currently tabled by legislature, and lastly there is a bill requiring that Fire Departments can only get the insurance money for EMS billing, they do not feel that particular piece of legislature is going anyway.
- c. **Fire Prevention Bureau update** – The Chief reported that the plan reviews and billing is very busy. They expect to bill \$2,300 in the first month.
- d. **Station Phone system** – Chief Herrmann stated that the current phone system is very antiquated. Deputy Larson has identified a new phone system and they would like to move forward with it this year. The expected cost is \$4,200 and there is plenty of monies left in the budget for capital expenditures.
- e. **Station 2 update** – The Chief stated that the final meeting with the architects and engineers is coming up. They will then have the bid packets together and should be ready to go out to bid soon. They still expect to break ground in August.
- f. **FF Injury Update** – The Chief reported that the FF that was injured by the SCBA bottle was given 5 more weeks of therapy. He requested a 2nd opinion and it was confirmed that the therapy order was consistent with his injury. The Board inquired if they were a fulltime or part-time employee. The Chief indicated they were a part-time employee with us, but a full-time employee elsewhere. Trustee Thompson inquired if he was “being kept whole”. The Chief indicated that IPRF has been very good with this particular claim.
- g. **FF Injury** – The Chief stated there was an additional injury. A part-time FF sprained his ankle and will be off for 2 weeks.
- h. **OSHA Inspection** - The Chief expressed his gratitude to DC Larson for his completion of the final items outstanding with the OSHA inspection. He explained a little about how detailed and specific the reporting process was for the closeout of the inspection. The Board thanked Deputy Larson for his good work.
- i. **Station 1 Construction** - The Chief reported that the work on the bedrooms is mostly complete.

- j. **Development Update** – The Chief stated that things are steady with the new construction in town. He reported that there were 27 permits issued in March, and are on track to have 270 new homes built this year. The townhomes by DR Horton will be completed this year. Plans have already been submitted for the old hardware store which will become a café/casino, and for the new 16-unit shopping center by Casey's on Rt. 72.
- k. **Monthly Report** – The Chief reviewed the highlights with the Board.

7. Deputy Chief's report –

- a. **Monthly training report** – The Deputy provided the training report for the month of March.

8. New Business

- a. **RR Merger** – Chief Herrmann informed the Board that he and the Deputy attended the meeting at the Village regarding the upgrading of the railroad crossing and closing of the East street crossing. He reported the State Street crossing will have 4 crossing arms along with a dedicated pedestrian crossing. This will allow the Village to have a quiet zone so the trains will not blow their horns. As a result, the East St. crossing will be closing. They anticipate the changes to start next summer and ultimately the number of trains coming through to be 11 a day.
- b. **Budget review** - The Chief reviewed the budget with the Board. He indicated Property Casualty insurance will be going up to \$46,000 so that will need to be adjusted from the copy they have received. Trustee Gustafson questioned the amount indicated for the awards dinner. He would like to see the annual awards dinner being moved to back to the Spring, which would require 2 dinners in the upcoming budget. No one else from the Board felt that was necessary. Ms. Remakel questioned if the Station telephone service fees would be decreased due to the new phone system. Deputy Larson indicated it will decrease a little. The Chief then went over the Capital expenditures that will be expensed from the appropriate budget. Ms. Remakel explained the small handout with the various fund accounts that went along with the detailed operating budget. There were no questions from the Board. They thanked the Chief and stated they felt it was all in order.

- 9. Correspondence** – The Chief provided a letter from State Senator Syverson, a thank you letter from South Elgin for the District's station coverage that was provided during the funeral services for their passing of the Board President. He also had a thank you from a resident for the District's assistance in getting a tree removed when ComEd was unavailable, the Association received a donation from the Ahle family in memory of their son.

- 10. Public Comment** – There was no public comment.

- 11. Closed Session** – There was no need to a closed session.

12. Board of Trustee Comments – There was discussion regarding the Annual conference in Peoria in June. Trustees Gustafson and Pechtold are interested in attending but are awaiting additional information. They will advise when they have had time to investigate. Trustee Pechtold inquired if the Chief had been successful in getting the Village to reduce the fees for the new fire station. The Chief responded that because the Village will incur costs, they cannot waive the fees.

13. Motion to adjourn – Trustee Gustafson moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Pechtold seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 18:45.

Secretary