

# WORTHINGTON FIRE DISTRICT

1400 BERLIN TURNPIKE

PO BOX 8066

Berlin, CT 06037-8066

A Special Meeting of the Worthington Fire District Committee was called to order at 5:00 PM on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, at 1400 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin, CT.

## **PRESENT:**

Arthur B. Powers, Chairman  
Peter Fliss, Committee Member  
Stanley Pajor IV, Committee Member  
Joseph Pagliaruli, Superintendent  
Thomas Niedzwiecki, Treasurer  
Lynn Ferrelli, Collector

## **ABSENT:**

Timothy Sullivan, Legal Counsel

Arthur B. Powers, Chairman, opened the meeting at 5:00 PM.

## **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:**

There was no one in attendance who wanted to make a comment.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A Motion to accept the April 21, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Joe Pagliaruli reported on the following:

### **CONSTRUCTION:**

No construction this month.

### **NEW NEWS:**

- The District property on Seymour Road leading to Farmington Avenue is being surveyed to allow us to clear our easement.
- The data from the sewer meters has been gathered and we are crunching numbers now. Not complete.
- Hydrant flushing has started.

### **CROSS CONNECTIONS:**

- Inspections have started.

### **ENGINEERING (Mike & Jason):**

- The men and I are working on the GIS, adding new information. We are also putting together a response to the Town Attorney.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to accept the Superintendent's Report. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Tom was in attendance and his report was distributed to all attendees. The report, as prepared by the Treasurer, is attached to these minutes as submitted.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to accept the Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 30, 2021. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

Tom also submitted the updated insurance list for Worthington Fire District contractors for the month ended of April 2021.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to accept the current insurance certificate list. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

### **TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT:**

The Collector's Report was distributed to all attendees. The report, as prepared by Tax Collector Lynn Ferrelli, is attached to these minutes as submitted.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to accept the Collector's Report. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

### **LEGAL COUNSEL:**

Timothy Sullivan was not in attendance and therefore no report was given.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no Old Business to discuss.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A.) Tom is completing the state form for Auditor and recommends to continue using London & Company as our auditor, as Robert London is doing a fine job.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to accept the appointment of London & Company as our auditor for the FYE 2021. MOTION PASSED 3-0.



- B.) Proposed Amendment to Sec. 3.1 of the WFD Bylaws. Sec. 3.1 currently requires the Annual Meeting to be held during the month of June. The Proposed Amendment would require the Annual Meeting to be held in the month of May.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to amend section 3.1 of the WFD bylaws to require the Annual Meeting of the District be held in the month of May and to schedule the proposed amendment for consideration at the District's June 2, 2021 Annual Meeting. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

- C.) Annual Merit Increase for the Tax Collector. This matter was discussed in Executive Session of the April 21, 2021 meeting but no motion was made.

A Motion was made by Stanley Pajor IV and Seconded by Peter Fliss to approve a merit increase of 4.5% for the Tax Collector, retroactive to April 1, 2021. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

- D.) Office Re-opening. Due to the fact that the office staff will have their complete vaccines by mid-June, the Tax Collector proposed we open the office to the public on Monday, June 41, 2021.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to re-open the WFD office on Monday, June 14, 2021. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

- E.) Proposed budget for FY 2022. Tom Niedzwiecki went over the budget noting that the budget is down by \$21,338 (-2%) and he proposed we lower the mill rate from 1.63 to 1.54. Tom did not change the revenue for water/sewer collections based on the reason that it may be a bit less because of the secondary meters being instituted to customers who wish to use them. Ray Jarema did not give an exact amount, only his best guess at of what the sewer rate will be charged to WFD as we were overbilled this year. As for Capital Expenditures, Tom is still looking in to bank loans and will continue to do so once he is back in the office in June.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to accept the Proposed Budget presented by Treasurer, Thomas Niedzwiecki. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

No other new business was discussed.

A Motion was made by Peter Fliss and Seconded by Stanley Pajor IV to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 PM as there was no further business to discuss. MOTION PASSED 3-0.

The Meeting Adjourned at 5:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lynn J. Ferrelli, Tax Collector