



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Of the Wentzville Fire Protection District of August 13, 2020

The Regular Meeting of the Wentzville Fire Protection District was held on August 13, 2020 via video conferencing due to the COVID-19 pandemic and current CDC restrictions at 6:00 p.m.

Chief Schneider led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Schneider called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Open Forum: No one from the public was present.

Roll Call: Chief Schneider called roll. All Board Members were present Director Bob Hawkins- present, Director Jennifer Houston-present, and Director Frank Grassmuck-present.

Also, in attendance were Assistant Chief John LeDoux, Battalion Chief Willie Meyer, and Shop Steward Max Mueller as well as CPA Rick Rognan.

Director Hawkins made a motion to approve the agenda. It was seconded by Director Grassmuck. Director Hawkins -aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.

Director Hawkins motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 6, 2020; the motion was seconded by Director Houston. Director Hawkins -aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.

CPA Rognan presented the July 2020 Financials. The benchmark for July is 58.30%. The district is at 55.55% or 2.75% below the benchmark. This is \$367,822 below budget. The district has collected 97.99% of the tax revenue projected and 119% of the building and other permits projected. Interest is above the benchmark at 67.45% however CPA Rognan stated to be mindful interest rates are extremely low. There are a few categories above the benchmark, those include Computer services-IT Technology, Dues and Subscriptions, Insurance employee and Insurance general-P&C as well as Supplies-medical. These are mainly timing overages. The district is in good shape according to CPA Rognan, he estimates at the end of the year the district will have 66.83% of expenses on hand, if all line items are expended. He does not anticipate spending every line item as budgeted. CPA Rognan stated the district funds are well collateralized and the banks are in good standing. The call volume is down slightly from last year, but it still appears the district will run over 5,000 calls in 2020. As always CPA Rognan's recommendation is to remain conservative.

CPA Rognan discussed the preliminary tax rate hearing will be held to set on September 10<sup>th</sup>. He stated the district is now the largest fire district in St. Charles County with assessments over 2 billion dollars. He stated this is big in a non-assessment year. He also stated that if the board so desired, they could approve giving back a penny in debt service due to the district's collection rate and the amount in reserve for debt service. All board members agreed to give back the penny. Director Grassmuck inquired if the residents would have to vote to collect more in debt service should the need arise and was informed by CPA Rognan debt service collection does not work like the general fund collection, needing a vote to go back up after rolling back a rate. CPA Rognan stated the district could collect \$0.17cents, the true amount able to collect for debt service, but because of our resident's timely payments, the district is able to bring down the collection for debt service to \$0.10. The general fund rate remains the same as 2019 at \$0.6734. All of these are preliminary numbers. He stated we will be receiving Post Board of Equalizations numbers later in the month.

Old Business:

No Old Business

New Business:

No New Business

Officer Reports:

Chief Schneider informed the board CPA Rognan confirmed and approved the next payment to the Defined Benefit plan for 2020 of \$500,000. He also stated a check was received for the tow bill for the Huck's incident with 9844. Chief Schneider also requested the Pension Board meet on August 27<sup>th</sup> to discuss amendments to be made to the Empower Plans. He stated he will get the information to them in advance.

Assistant Chief LeDoux provided an update on COVID with in our members.

Deputy Chief Scott was not present.

Fire Marshal Cuddihee was not present.


Battalion Chief Meyer had nothing to report.

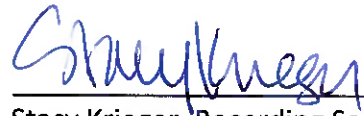
Legal Counsel McLaughlin was not present.

Shop Steward Mueller provided an update on FF-Paramedic Kappen, stated they are meeting with her tomorrow.

There was no board report.

On a motion of Director Hawkins and a second of Director Grassmuck, the regular meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m. Director Hawkins -aye, Director Houston-aye, Director Grassmuck-aye.

  
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Frank Grassmuck, Secretary

  
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Stacy Krieger, Recording Secretary