

North Shore Fire Department Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: February 8, 2022

Meeting held virtually via Zoom Video Conferencing.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

Present: Eido Walny, representing Bayside
Wanda Montgomery, representing Brown Deer
Douglas Frazer, representing Fox Point
Bryan Kennedy, representing Glendale, arrived 8:01 a.m.
Peter Kingwill, representing River Hills
Ann McKaig, representing Shorewood, arrived 8:30 a.m.
Rebecca Ewald, representing Shorewood
Kevin Buckley, representing Whitefish Bay

Also Present: Robert Whitaker, Fire Chief
John Maydak, Assistant Chief
Toby Carlson, Assistant Chief
Dan Tyk, Battalion Chief
KateLynn Harrigan, Finance Director
Kerry Wenzel, Administrative Coordinator
Andy Pederson, Bayside Village Manager
Tyler Burkart, Brown Deer Village Manager
Darrell Hofland, Glendale Interim City Administrator
Tammy LaBorde, River Hills Village Manager
Rebecca Ewald, Shorewood Village Manager
Paul Boening, Whitefish Bay Village Manager
Nick Padway, Fire Commission Chair
Peter Ziegelbauer, Local 1440
Greg Sikora, Local 1440

2. PERSONS DESIRING TO BE HEARD

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

It was moved by President Frazer and seconded by President Montgomery to approve the December 14, 2021 Board of Directors minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT ON DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES RELATING TO DEPARTMENT CALLS, STAFFING, APPOINTMENT/PROMOTION NEEDS, TRAINING, FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Chief Whitaker presented his written report. He reviewed the Department's 2022 Strategic Plan noting several key objectives the Department will work toward throughout the year, as well as Goals the Department will work towards in the next three years.

Chief Whitaker presented the 2021 Annual Report. He noted the Department received a record high request for mutual aid adding a lot of that number is driven by the issues with the private ambulance sector. The Department received mutual aid for 766 incidents. However, of those responses, the Department received 1,383 resources.

5. NSFD COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

6. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – KATELYNN HARRIGAN

Finance Director Harrigan stated the Department is 8.33% through the fiscal year. Staffing this year is starting down 11 positions. Overtime expenses will be increased through the beginning of the year before new hires will start mid-year. She added the auditors from Baker Tilly are on site this week and anticipate they will present their report to the Board of Directors in May.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM NORTH SHORE FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 1440

Chief Whitaker stated the Local has spoken to him regarding this request. The request is in the packet. He presented the historical background.

Mayor Kennedy asked if the increased usage is due to those who are unvaccinated. Chief Whitaker stated the Department has had a high rate of vaccination and booster status of membership. President Buckley asked for clarification regarding the 80 hours employees received two years ago and asked if those hours disappear if not used. Chief Whitaker stated those hours do not disappear. President Walny stated he sympathizes with the firefighters but understands we will have to deal with the virus long-term. He did not feel additional leave time, beyond what has been granted, is warranted. President Frazer stated he echoes those comments. President Frazer proposed no action be taken on this request. Chief Whitaker will author a letter consistent with past practice.

8. STATUS UPDATE ON FIRE STATION 82 PROJECT PLANNING AND COST ESTIMATES

Chief Whitaker stated the Department engaged with Kueny Architects and has held several planning meetings. The preliminary floor plan is included in the packet. The project price point is based on current bidding and product costs. There is a projected cost increase since the project was last discussed in October. Those estimates were presented in the packet on page 77.

The Health Department expansion is noted on the site plan. The Department worked with the Village of Brown Deer on a potential \$1 million grant opportunity. The status of the grant is still unknown.

The master site plan for future expansion, has been evaluated, but the report is not yet complete.

Mayor Kennedy stated Glendale believes they can work with future budgets to make this project possible and would support moving forward. President Frazer stated Fox Point is comfortable moving forward. President Walny stated increases are not always preferred but believes Bayside can put these figures into their budget. President Buckley is comfortable moving forward. President Montgomery stated Brown Deer is in support of moving forward with this project. President McKaig thanked Chief Whitaker for the

communication and is comfortable supporting the project and believes it is an important project for the Department. Trustee Kingwill stated River Hills supports the project moving forward.

Chief Whitaker stated the Department will begin the General Obligation Bonding process and will be looking for a community to borrow on the Department's behalf.

9. SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

The Board is set to meet on March 8, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. via Zoom.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Montgomery thanked the Department for their work supporting the Brown Deer Police Department over the weekend. She also introduced Tyler Burkhart as Brown Deer's new Village Manager.

Trustee Kingwill thanked the Department for their work at a recent incident in River Hills. The coordination and professionalism were outstanding.

Mayor Kennedy stated that Glendale has learned that Motel 6 is now being rented out to the City of Milwaukee as a homeless shelter. As of now, the City of Milwaukee is aware of the increased call volume and Glendale is in communication with the Community Development Grants Administration with Milwaukee. The rental contract will go through March 31. Mayor Kennedy anticipates this topic to be on the March ICC agenda.

11. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by President Frazer and seconded by Mayor Kennedy adjourn. Motion carried unanimously at 8:44 a.m.

Submitted by:
Kerry Wenzel for
Ann McKaig
Secretary/Treasurer
NSFD Board of Directors