

Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2025

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
DARIEN-WOODRIDGE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District was held at the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District Station 89, 7550 Lyman Ave., Darien, Illinois on July 16, 2025.

Board Members:

Mr. James Palatine, President

Ms. Kathy Trapp, Treasurer

Ms. Mary Elizabeth Brownson, Secretary

Mr. Timothy Waz, Trustee

Ms. Krystal Roberts, Trustee

Fire Chief Jimmy Lahanis

Deputy Fire Chief Jamie Tunk

Attorney Joe Nichelle

Christine Hardy, Recording Secretary

Visitors:

Fire Commissioner Ed Cryer; James Howard, Governmental Accounting and Recording Secretary Christine Hardy.

At 6:30 p.m. Trustee Palatine called the regular meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll call: Trustee James Palatine present, Trustee Kathy Trapp present, Trustee Mary Brownson present, and Trustee Timothy Waz present. Trustee Krystal Roberts present at 6:31 p.m. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Reading of Minutes:

Regular Meeting held June 18, 2025

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the June 18, 2025 regular meeting and approve and release them as written. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, abstain; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstain. Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. James Howard, Governmental Accounting, Inc. read the Treasurer's Financial Report for the 1 Month(s) Ended June 30, 2025 – Fiscal Year 26 which included vendors paid report and payroll. Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Waz seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve disbursements for a total of \$1,451,895.74. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Waz seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

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Attorney Report:

Attorney Nichele advised the Budget Appropriation Ordinance included on the agenda grants authority to spend budget money. He further stated that the Public Hearing was published as required.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

a) Presentation of Ordinance 25-O-2 Final Ordinance Providing for Budget and Appropriation of the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District, DuPage County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Beginning June 1, 2025 and Ending May 31, 2026.

- Attorney Nichele advised there was an error on the posted agenda regarding the ordinance number. The actual number is 25-O-1.
- Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve Ordinance 25-O-1 Final Ordinance Providing for Budget and Appropriation of the Darien-Woodridge Fire Protection District, DuPage County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Beginning June 1, 2025 and Ending May 31, 2026. Trustee Trapp so moved. Trustee Waz seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

b) Consideration of a Motion to Review and Release the Minutes from the Previous Closed Session Meeting Dates of 06.19.2024, 07.17.2024, 08.21.2024, and 12.11.2024

- 06.19.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes:
 - Trustee Trapp moved to release the 06.19.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes. Trustee Waz seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye and Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.
- 07.17.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes:
 - Trustee Waz moved to release the 07.17.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes. Trustee Trapp seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye and Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.
- 08.21.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes:
 - Trustee Brownson moved to release the 08.21.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes. Trustee Waz seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye and Trustee Roberts. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.
- 12.11.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes:
 - Trustee Brownson moved to release the 12.11.2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes. Trustee Waz seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Waz, aye and Trustee Roberts. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

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Correspondence:

- Chief Lahanis shared an email from Catherine Papadakis, expressing appreciation for care provided to her mother in 2017. She wanted to share that even though years have passed she still remembers the paramedics on the call and conveyed that the sacrifices of firefighter/paramedics do not go unnoticed.

Chief Administrator's Report:

Chief Lahanis provided an overview of department activities.

- A few members welcomed babies during the months of June and early July.
- The City of Darien and the Village of Woodridge are both still exploring possible TIF districts. The Village of Woodridge is holding a public meeting on July 17th to discuss the proposed 75th Street Corridor TIF District.
- The new District website is active and is easier to navigate as well as ADA compliant.
- An executive summary of the 2025 Strategic Plan includes a clear and mission driven framework to assist the District with future goals.
- The DuPage ETSB will be distributing new portable radios by the end of August. An IGA will need to be entered into to ensure the radios are being used as outlined by the law.

Deputy Chief's Report:

Deputy Chief Tunk was not in attendance and Chief Lahanis provided an overview of department responses and activities.

- Emergency response calls continue to trend upwards by approximately 4% over the previous year.
- Staff are awaiting decision on several submitted grant requests.

Board of Fire Commissioners Report:

Commissioner Cryer advised the BC testing process has concluded with two candidates on the final promotional list. Promotions are planned for early September, and hiring will all take place late September.

Public Comment:

No Public Comment.

Closed Session:

No Closed Session.

Adjourn:

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Palatine requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Waz so moved. Trustee Brownson seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson; Trustee Waz, aye; Trustee Roberts, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Mary Elizabeth Brownson

Mary Elizabeth Brownson, Secretary