

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 January 18, 2023.

Board Members:

Mr. James Palatine, President
Ms. Kathy Trapp, Treasurer
Mr. Frank Burns, Trustee
Ms. Beth Brownson, Trustee
Mr. Brian Chaplin, Trustee

Chief James Karasek
Deputy Chief Jimmy Lahanis
Ms. Chris Hardy, Recording Secretary
Attorney Joe Nichele

Visitors:

Mrs. James Howard, Governmental Accounting

Trustee Palatine called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Roll call: Trustee James Palatine present, Trustee Frank Burns present, Trustee Kathy Trapp present, Trustee Beth Brownson present, Trustee Brian Chaplin present. It was determined that a quorum was present.

Reading of Minutes:

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the December 14, 2022 regular meeting and approve them as written. Trustee Trapp so moved. Trustee Chaplin seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Burns, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, abstain; Trustee Chaplin, aye. 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstain. Approved.

Treasurer's Report:

James Howard, Governmental Accounting, Inc. read the December Treasurer's Report 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 Burns seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Burns, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplin, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve disbursements for a total of \$821,835.63. Trustee Chaplin so moved. Trustee Burns seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Burns, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplin, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.

Attorney Report:

Attorney Nichele advised Ordinance 23-O-1, An Ordinance Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System was on the agenda for consideration. He advised the agreement was last updated in 2014.

Attorney Nichele advised Resolution No. 23-R-1, A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIEMC) was on the agenda for consideration. Due to ComEd deregulation the resolution authorizes the broker (NIEMC) to obtain lower energy costs on behalf of the fire district.

Attorney Nichele said the consideration of a motion to release closed session minutes from previous closed session meetings was on the agenda for review. He advised mandates were amended last year requiring review every six months. Staff plans to review minutes in January and July each year. Per his recommendation the June 15, 2022 minutes may be released, all others should remain closed at this time. They will be reviewed again in July 2023.

Attorney Nichele advised consideration of a motion to enter into the Collective Bargaining Agreement was on the agenda. He indicated two labor attorneys were involved in the process and have reviewed and approved the proposed contract. He does not have any issues with the contract as presented.

Old Business:

No Old Business

New Business:

- a) Discussion on Pension Funding. Chief Karasek advised staff will be working with James Howard, Governmental Accounting, Inc. in an effort to phase in increased pension funding.
- b) Presentation of Ordinance No. 23-O-1, An Ordinance Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System. Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve Ordinance No. 23-O-1 as presented. Trustee Chaplin so moved. Trustee Trapp seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Burns, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplin, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.
- c) Presentation of Resolution No. 23-R-1, A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIEMC). Trustee Palatine requested a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-R-1 as presented. Trustee Brownson so moved. Trustee Chaplin seconded. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Burns, aye; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, aye; Trustee Chaplin, aye. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstain. Approved.
- d) Consideration of a Motion to enter into the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Trustee Palatine requested a motion to enter into the Collective Bargaining Agreement as presented. Trustee Burns so moved. Trustee Trapp seconded. After discussion Trustee Palatine advised the agenda item would be tabled until Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. Allowing board members additional time to review all contract documents.

Darien-Woodridge Fire District
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2023

- e) Consideration of a Motion to Review and Release the Minutes from the Previous Closed Session Meeting Dates of 04.20.2022, 05.18.2022, 06.15.2022, 09.21.2022, 11.09.2022, 06.16.2021 and 09.15.2021. Trustee Palatine moved, seconded by Trustee Trapp to approve release of the 06.15.2022 Closed Session Meeting Minutes with all other dates to remain closed. Attorney Nichele advised Trustees Palatine, Trapp and English were the only board members in attendance at the June 15, 2022 meeting. The minutes will need to be approved with only two of the three members that were present. Roll call vote: Trustee Palatine, aye; Trustee Burns, abstain; Trustee Trapp, aye; Trustee Brownson, abstain; Trustee Chaplin, abstain. 2 ayes, 0 nays, 3 abstain. Approved.

Correspondence:

None.

Chief Administrator's Report:

Overview was given by Fire Chief/Administrator Karasek.

Board of Fire Commissioners Report:

Commissioner Cryer advised the next Fire Commissioners Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 16, 2023. He will not be present for the meeting.

Public Comment:

There was no Public Comment.

Closed Session:

There was no Closed Session.

Adjourn:

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Mary "Beth" Brownson

Mary "Beth" Brownson, Secretary