

North Shore Fire Department Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: August 08, 2023

Meeting held via Zoom Video Conferencing.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m.

Present: Eido Walny, representing Bayside
Wanda Montgomery, representing Brown Deer
Scott Botcher, representing Fox Point
Bryan Kennedy, representing Glendale
David Fritz, representing River Hills
Ann McKaig, representing Shorewood
Kevin Buckley, representing Whitefish Bay

Also Present: Robert Whitaker, Fire Chief
Toby Carlson, Assistant Chief
Dan Tyk, Assistant Chief
KateLynn Harrigan, Finance Director
Kerry Wenzel, Administrative Coordinator
Andy Pederson, Bayside Village Manager
Tyler Burkhart, Brown Deer Village Manager
Karl Warwick, Glendale City Administrator, arrived 8:03 a.m.
Tammy LaBorde, River Hills Village Manager, arrived 8:08 a.m.
Rebecca Ewald, Shorewood Village Manager
Paul Boening, Whitefish Bay Village Manager

2. PERSONS DESIRING TO BE HEARD

None.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

It was moved by President Montgomery and seconded by Mayor Kennedy to approve the June 13, 2023 Board of Directors minutes as presented. Motion carried.

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 stated his written report and Quarter 2 calls statistics were outlined in the packet. He updated the board on the Station 82 project noting construction is on track after a slow start and we continue to anticipate a spring move in date. He noted a significant call at Milwaukee Country Club regarding cardiac arrest and quick action by staff and lifeguards with a positive outcome.

5. NSFD COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

6. MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – KATELYNN HARRIGAN

Finance Director Harrigan presented the financial memo for the month ending in July. Permit fees continue to run high and exceed budget amounts. Insurance dividend and work comp audit payments were received; however, were below the budgeted amounts. The Department anticipates carrying a surplus through the year until a three-payroll month in December. Major construction expenses have been paid to Scherrer Construction for the Station 82 project.

7. PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2024 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET

Finance Director Harrigan presented the 2024 Preliminary Budget with a 3.5% municipal increase to balance the budget.

Mayor Kennedy appreciated the effort of the Department on presenting the budget and asked that, after questions and discussion, the Board consider the 2024 Budget at the September meeting.

President Wanly thanked Finance Director Harrigan and asked if the Department could present a budget at 2.5 or 3%. Finance Director Harrigan stated she hopes to have the health insurance premiums back by the September meeting which will also help create a clearer picture. She added seeing the greatest impact would be decreasing the number of personnel for 2024. Chief Whitaker added the recommendation from the Long-Range Financial Committee is to keep up with wage increases. He stated recent CPI and cost of living figures, and the Board should be cognizant of wage proposals for the next Local 1440 contract for 2025 and beyond.

Chief Whitaker stated call volume continues to increase and the Department is looking to add an ambulance for keeping up with the call increases. President McKaig agreed and was reminded that her board would want to see the context and historical nature of the Department and encouraged the Board to find ways how we can educate municipal Boards and Councils moving forward.

It was moved by Mayor Kennedy and seconded by President Walny to lay over action on the 2024 Operating and Capital Budget until the September Board Meeting. Motion carried.

8. SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING – SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

Glendale City Hall will host the meeting with a Zoom option. In person is encouraged by all Board members.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President McKaig congratulated Village of Bayside for being designated PSAP and thanked President Walny and Manager Pederson for their work.

10. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mayor Kennedy and seconded by President Buckley to adjourn. Motion carried at 8:52 a.m.

Submitted by:
Kerry Wenzel for
Eido Walny
Secretary/Treasurer
NSFD Board of Directors