

SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 21

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting
Monday, October 14, 2019 @6:30 p.m. @Station 49
12131 228th Street NE, Arlington, WA 98223

Call to Order: Chairman Safford called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendees: Chairman Safford, Commissioners Nordstrom & Taft, Chief Schmidt via facetime and Executive Assistant Tiner. There were 4 Crew and 2 Guests present.

Flag Salute: Chairman Safford led the flag salute.

Public Input: Laura Hofmann requested all Trunk or Treat Volunteers attend meeting on 10/15/19 at 7pm.

Volunteer Input: FF/EMT Jim Welch talked about the Volunteer training.

Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of minutes from September 9, 2019, Regular meeting
- 2) Payroll: September = \$82,920.15
- 3) Financials: \$52,738.98

Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items 1–3 as presented.

Commissioner Taft seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Station 50 Update –

- Chief Schmidt will have all the figures for the Station by Wednesday's Special Meeting.
- Water line will cost approximately \$165.00/foot.

Station 49 Remodel –

- Resubmitted the floor plans to the County. Can start building as soon as we hear back from them.
- Looking into redoing the septic system.

FEMA Update – Chief reported that the District had initially sent in the invoices from all the companies involved to FEMA. Checking on these timelines. Waiting to hear back from FEMA.

New Business –

Resolution 2019-07–Hovercraft Brand Name Solicitation – The District's attorney approved the bid for the hovercraft by Neoteric. It was explained that the District needs to stay with Neoteric because they have been with them since 2004 and want everything to be compatible.

Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-07–Hovercraft Brand Name Solicitation. Chairman Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2019-08-Surplus Obsolete Equipment – F350 Storage Box

Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2019-08-Surplus Obsolete Equipment – F350 Storage Box. Commissioner Taft seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Draft 2020 Budget – 1st Reading – Moved to the October 16, 2019, Special Meeting

Chief/Secretary Reports:

- Equipment Report –
 - Discussion about hose that may need to be returned.
 - Have ordered some new SCBA's.
 - Steel Fabricators is working on a sign for Station 49.
 - Discussed buying Rescue Unit SQ-60 for the Rescue Team which is selling for \$10,000.
- Apparatus Report – Discussion on vehicle weight limit concerns on the Jordan Bridge.

Commissioner Reports:

- Discussion and decision made to talk about the 2020 budget at the Special Meeting on October 16th.
- Commissioner Taft mentioned that a representative of the Navy base had requested the FD inspect their generators for potential fires, but did not hear back for two weeks. They were not happy about this. Commissioner Taft suggested the District send a letter of apology. Subsequent discussion outlined the fact that the District did respond to the request once received and did inspect the generator after responding to a Call. Chief Schmidt will follow up with the Navy.
- Commissioner Taft wanted to discuss a comment the Chief made at the last meeting regarding FD personnel following the chain-of-command when reporting an issue. He disagreed with the Chief's rule. Feels anyone should be able to talk to anyone about their concerns; and that he is only a Commissioner during meetings. Otherwise, he is just a regular citizen.
 - The purpose/reason for the chain-of-command process was explained.
 - Chief explained that, if it is not an operational concern, it could be okay to bypass the chain-of-command if timeliness is an issue.
 - Commissioner Nordstrom explained that, if the Board allows personnel to ignore the proper reporting process, it circumvents the Chief's ability to operate.
 - Chairman Safford stated that it also goes against the rules of the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and the Commissioner's Handbook to bypass the chain-of-command. He read the duties of the Commissioner and the Chief from the handbook, and also from the CBA.
 - The Chief stated that he is willing to meet with anyone at any time to answer any questions. FF Bates offered to accompany anyone who may feel uncomfortable going to speak to the Chief.
 - Proper chain of command: Volunteers should go through their representative Warren Aspden first. Career should go through their Officers.
 - Chief mentioned that the Union will start having monthly Labor Management meetings and thought it would be educational for a Commissioner to attend, and to also read the CBA.

EMS Levy – Chief Schmidt reported that the pamphlets have been distributed and the signs have been posted by the Union.

Flood Season – Commissioner Nordstrom mentioned the potential of L&I issues related to flood rescue calls – be sure to follow the rules.

Announcements:

- Next Regular Commissioner meeting Monday, November 11, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at Station 49
- 2nd Reading, Public Hearing and Draft Resolutions for 2020 Budget at the November 11th meeting
- Special Commissioner Meeting/Workshop on Wednesday, October 16, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at the Arlington Heights Improvement Center

Executive Session – The Board adjourned at 8:16 p.m. and went into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. to Review the Performance of a Public Employee per RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). It was expected to last until 8:40 p.m. At 8:40 p.m. Chairman Safford emerged from Executive Session to extend the meeting until 9:00 p.m. At 9:00 p.m. the Board emerged from Executive Session and immediately returned to regular session with no action taken.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved By:

Chairman Safford

Commissioner Nordstrom

Commissioner Taft

Fire Chief/Board Secretary Schmidt