

SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 21

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting

Monday, July 13, 2020 @6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

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

Attendees: Chairman Taft, Commissioners Nordstrom & Safford, Chief Schmidt and Executive Assistant Tiner via Zoom. There was one Citizen and two Crew in attendance.

Flag Salute: Commissioner Safford led the flag salute.

Public Input: None

Union Input: None

Volunteer Input: None

Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of minutes from June 8, 2020, Regular meeting
- 2) Payroll: June = \$96,549.41
- 3) Financials: \$50,074.87

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

Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Station 50 Update –

- ESI soil testing completed – it is glacial till.
- David Evans has the preliminary design from Cascade Survey for the water line. \$34,000 fixed fee. Requesting to meet with the City regarding it.

Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve the Scope and Budget of the Cascade Survey of the water line of \$34,000. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

- Fire Chief Kraski notified the District that they will be increasing their fee to us for BLS and Fire service to the South End to \$.92 per 1,000, same as what they charge their citizens.
- Discussion held regarding establishing a temporary service area on the lot to service the South End ourselves. Arlington FD would still need to cover the areas for Dike and Wade Road.
- Another suggestion would be to ask Getchell FD to cover the South End for the District for BLS and Fire service.
- Concern expressed regarding whether Arlington FD is applying this same increase to other agencies that they service.
- Chief Schmidt will work on a calls comparison between the City and the District; and will follow up with Chief Kraski.

Five Member Board –

- Discussion held regarding how a five member Board should represent the District as a whole. Some wish to have two from each Section of District and one At Large. Pros and Cons discussed.

- Suggestion that, due to current projects and dealing with the pandemic, it may be better to wait to pursue this. May have more interest once the new Station is built.

It was the consensus of the Board to wait at least one year before contemplating changing the Board dynamics to a Five Member Board.

Budget Workshop in August – It was agreed to hold a Budget Workshop/Special Meeting on Monday, August 24, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. at the AHIC.

Fulltime Fire Chief Planning – Chief Schmidt proposed that he be hired/classified as a Battalion Fire Chief and sign an agreement with the Union to serve in the capacity as District Fire Chief for a period of five (5) years. This would enable him to backfill on a Rig when there are absences due to sick or vacation/Kelly days off. The Union is in agreement with this. He is checking with our Attorney regarding the legality of this.

- He is looking into whether he could still operate as a Paramedic.
- He would fall under the Union's contract for benefits, including vacation and sick time.
- The Board could then take a bigger role in contract negotiations since he will be unable to.

It was the consensus of the Board to pursue this proposal, pending approval from the District's Attorney.

Bidding Process – Chief Schmidt explained the State bidding process, and that the District was following those guidelines in handling the smaller bids for the construction of Station 50. It's based off of the Small Works Roster. Bid are emailed to Project Manager Cargile and the Chief and the lowest bid is selected. This follows the State's RCW's and the District Attorney's guidance. Chairman Taft expressed desire to have the bids opened by the Board instead. Discussion held.

Change Order #4 – Wetland Resources Services for off-site waterline extension for Station 50.

Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve Change Order #4 – Wetland Resources Services for off-site waterline extension for Station 50. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

New Business: NONE

Chief/Secretary Reports:

Apparatus Report –

- The Brush Truck is almost complete. Should be ready for mobilization soon. State pay for wildfire mobilization is \$1,600 per day per employee, and a separate pay to backfill for deployed employees.
- New Hovercraft is in service. The old Hovercraft is stationed at Silvana FD #94 who has one Crew member who can respond in it, if needed.

Equipment- Ordering necessary parts to fix E49A.

Grants – FF Bates is writing a Grant to the Stillaguamish Tribe for SCBA's, and other items.

Commissioner Reports: None

Volunteer FF Aspden expressed concern on behalf of the District's Volunteers regarding inability to make the Call and Training Quota to meet their Pension requirements because of restricted responses due to the Pandemic. It was explained that it is up to the District to report if Volunteers have met their requirements and they will take into consideration the current situation.

Announcements:

- Next Regular Commissioner meeting Monday, August 10, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. at the Arlington Heights Improvement Club (AHIC). Commissioner Nordstrom may be attending via Video as he will be out of the area.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Commissioner Safford moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m.

Minutes Approved By:

Chairman Taft

Commissioner Nordstrom

Commissioner Safford

Fire Chief/Board Secretary Schmidt