

SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 21

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, 2020 @6:30 p.m.

Station 49 Bay and Via Zoom

Call to Order: Chairman Taft called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

Attendees: Chairman Taft, Commissioners Nordstrom & Safford, Chief Schmidt, Executive Assistant Tiner, and Citizen Laura Hofmann via Zoom. Two Guest speakers via Zoom – Jim Nelson/Bond Agent and Cynthia Weed/Bond Attorney.

Flag Salute: Commissioner Nordstrom led the flag salute.

Guest Speakers: Bond Agent Jim Nelson of D.A. Davidson and Bond Attorney Cynthia Weed of K&L Gates explained the process of securing the limited tax bond for the District's purchase of the new Fire Engine and answered questions from the Board. Question regarding doubling up on some payments – Yes. Discussion held afterwards.

Public Input: Laura Hofmann stated the work for the new roof for the Community Hall will start next week.

Union Input: None

Volunteer Input: None

Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of minutes from September 14, 2020, Regular meeting
- 2) Approval of minutes from September 21, 2020, Special meeting
- 3) Payroll: September = \$90,771.57
- 4) Financials: \$60,742.98

Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items 1-4 as presented. Chairman Taft seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Station 50 Update –

- The City of Arlington will allow the District to handle our new station project and the water line project separate from each other, as opposed to one combined project. They will approve the water certificate, and it will have nothing to do with the new Station.
- Discussion held regarding the mitigation issue.
- Suggestion to wait for the cost estimate for the water line before meeting with the City Council.
- New Station design slightly altered with the Station at a more diagonal angle for better access to the Bays and more parking.
- Discussion held regarding the Tribal Land the District wants to use.
- Chief met with Chief Kraski regarding fees for service. AFD asking \$300,000 for Fire Service. Chief Schmidt determined true cost is about \$95,000, plus some additional fees. Feels \$250,000 is a more fair total cost. Discussion held.

- Suggest that we pay the City's requested fee, but will charge the City every time that the District responds to a call in the City.
- The Stillaguamish Tribe has offered Trust Land near the Airport to the District as a temporary response location. Concern that this could be a political issue with the City. Should consider it only as a last resort.

It was the Consensus of the Board to have Chief Schmidt inquire with the Stillaguamish Tribe regarding the Tribal Trust Land south of the Airport that has been offered as a temporary response location for the District.

Fire Chief Contract – The Board reviewed the draft contract for a fulltime Fire Chief for the District.

Commissioner Safford made a motion to approve the District's Fire Chief Fulltime Employment Contract for Chad Schmidt, with an effective start date of January 1, 2021. Commissioner Nordstrom seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

New Business:

Resolution 2020-09 – Limited Tax General Obligation Bond for Fire Engine – Discussion held.

Commissioner Safford made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-09 – Limited Tax General Obligation Bond for Fire Engine. Chairman Taft seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

2nd Reading and Public Hearing of the District's Draft 2021 Budget and Draft Resolutions – Only one small adjustment made to the budget – modified the budget of the fulltime staff to be more accurate.

Chairman Taft opened the Public Hearing at 9:12 p.m.

There being no Public comments, Chairman Taft closed the Public Hearing at 9:13 p.m.

November 9th Board Meeting – Due to personal travel by the Fire Chief, the Board's Monday, November 9th meeting is being moved to Tuesday, November 10th.

Chief/Secretary Reports:

Apparatus Report –

- Tender needs new tank, has non-fixable leak. Operational for now. Suggestion made to have another Shop look at it.
- New Fire Engine delivered to Tacoma. Crews will pick it up next week and equip it.
- The Brush Truck will have the red stripe and the graphics added soon.

Equipment –

- Budgeted battery powered extrication tools, e.g. Jaws of Life & battery powered spreaders, to be tested.
- Sta. 49 outside painting to start soon, and 49 sign for the Tower to be installed.

Grants -

- Have not had a response yet from the Stillaguamish Tribe regarding our grant request.

Personnel –

- A/C Joel Smith leaving at end of year. May pay him as a Contractor to finish some projects. May look at refilling that position at a later date.
- Have offered Executive Assistant Darla Tiner medical benefits. This will allow her to retire from Camano Island Fire & Rescue and work two days a week at the District. Her salary will be lowered to accommodate the cost of the medical benefits. It was the Consensus of the Board to agree with this offer. She has accepted.

Citizen Thank You's –

- Several thank you's from local citizens, and from Eastern WA for help in fighting the fires over there. Copies will be placed in the affected Employee's files and emailed out to the Crews.

Commissioner Reports:

- Question of when the two new Fulltime employees will be pinned. Will need to wait until the COVID restrictions will allow this.
- Discussion held regarding the 60th Anniversary T-shirt design.

Announcements:

- Next Regular Commissioner meeting Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. in the Station 49 Bay.
- Final Reading/Approval of the District's Draft 2021 Budget and Resolutions at the November 10th meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Minutes Approved By:

Chairman Taft

Commissioner Nordstrom

Commissioner Safford

Fire Chief/Board Secretary Schmidt