

SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 21

Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting

Wednesday, November 8th, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

@ Station 50

Call to Order: Chairman Taft called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Attendees: Chairman Taft, Commissioner Nordstrom, Commissioner Safford, Chief Schmidt, Financial Director Perez, Admin Assistant Linklater, 2 citizens, and 1 crew.

Flag Salute: Led by Commissioner Safford

Real Estate Agent Listing Presentations for the Vacant Property on McElroy Road – Lance Otto with Keller Williams and Kerry McGhie with John L Scott each gave listing presentations to the board.

Public Input: Citizen, Joy Johnson expressed her concerns regarding response times for the house fire that took place on October 18th, 2023 in Arlington Heights. She discussed what took place and offered to join the Community Advisory Group to help improve the service and to be an advocate between the Fire District and the community.

Union Input: None

Volunteer Input: None

Consent Agenda:

- 1) Approval of Minutes from October 16th, 2023, Special Meeting
- 2) Payroll: September - \$162,146.83
- 3) Claims: \$43,324.23

Commissioner Safford made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items 1 through 3. Commissioner Nordstrom seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Financial Report: Financial Director Perez will discuss financials during New Business.

Old Business:

ALS Negotiations – Commissioner Safford shared how the meeting went with North County Regional Fire Authority's (NCRFA) Commissioner Cade. Trent from District 21 and Teresa from NCRFA went over numbers for both Districts. Have not received any communication from NCRFA since the letter from District 21 was sent. District 21 is looking into the ALS License process.

New Business:

Cushman Model – Financial Director Perez provided the Commissioners with a copy of the 2024-2030 Cushman Model summary. She walked through the summary and will go over it again in more detail during the March 2024 Strategic Planning Meeting. She shared that District 21 needs to build an emergency fund and will be working on that.

Approval of the Final Draw of 2022 Bond – Financial Director Perez discussed the 3rd and final draw of the bond which will be drawn in November 2023. These funds were designated for improvements at both Station 49 and Station 50. Commissioners said to prioritize the stairs down from crew quarters before other items. Chief shared we need to hire a new project manager for the waterline extension and the final Station 50 project.

First Reading, Draft Resolutions and Public Hearing of the Draft 2024 Budget – Financial Director Perez went over the key points. CPI increase, medical premiums increase, revenue and expenses, new Tender Engine and Grant Funds, Training Grant – spend half in 2024 and the other half in 2025, GEMT amounts may reduce, Station 50 Bond payments start in 2024 PITI, Engine Bond, Insurance Premium increases. The overall budget is very similar to the 2023 actuals. Staffing in 2024 will reduce from 3 firefighters down to 2 at each Station.

- Chairman Taft opened a Public Hearing at 8:02 p.m.
- There were no public comments or questions, Chairman Taft closed Public Hearing at 8:02 p.m.
- Resolution 2023-09 – 2024 Property Tax Levy –
Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-09 – 2024 Property Tax Levy. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.
- Resolution 2023-10 – 2024 EMS Levy –
Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-10 – 2024 Property Tax Levy. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2023-11 – Change the Date of the December 13th, 2023 Regular Commissioner Meeting –
Commissioner Nordstrom made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-11 – Change the Date of the December 13th, 2023 Regular Commissioner Meeting. Commissioner Safford seconded; Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Annual District Banquet – The Annual District Banquet will be held on January 20th, 2024.

Review 2024 Regular Commissioner Meeting Dates – Commissioners and Chief reviewed the purposed 2024 Regular Meeting dates for 2024. Odd months will be at AHIC (Arlington Heights Improvement Club) and even months at Station 50 (McElroy Rd).

Vacant Property/17827 McElroy Road - Chief Schmidt and Commissioners discussed each agent's listing presentations and decided it would be best for the District to choose Lance Otto with Keller Williams to be the Listing Agent.

Fire Levy – Chief Schmidt suggested to the Commissioners that it would be best to hire a political consultant. Chief is speaking with different people in the community who would be willing to help us.

Chief/Secretary Reports:

- Apparatus Report – The Tender Engine and Tender both needed service, The District had no Tenders one day while both were being serviced. Both Tenders are now back in service. Chief discussed that it would serve the District best if there was another Command Vehicle available for use. Need to start planning for this purchase.
- Equipment Report – Hydraulic rescue tools are needed.
- Grants – Stillaguamish Tribal Board is in support of District 21 and other rural areas in the county.
- Nurses Strike – Providence Hospital nurses are on a 5-day strike. This will effect District response times due to sitting longer on the wall at the hospital when transporting a patient.



Commissioner Reports –

- Commissioner Safford attended Sno Isles Commissioner Meeting via Zoom. He said Dr. Keay, the EMS Director was the speaker. She spoke about the Nurse Navigator Program, when 911 is called for ALS and BLS a Nurse Navigator screens the call and determines the level of emergency.
- Chairman Ed Taft ran in the current election for returning Commissioner. He won and will be staying on for another term. Thank you, Chairman Taft for serving District 21.

Announcements:

- Next Regular Commissioner Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5th, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at AHIC.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Minutes Approved By:

Chairman Taft



Commissioner Nordstrom

Commissioner Safford



Fire Chief/Board Secretary Schmidt