

FRANKFORT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Regular Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Frankfort Fire Protection District, Will County, Illinois, was held at Fire Station Number Three, 24420 S. LaGrange Road, Frankfort, Illinois, in said District at 5:00 P.M., on the 22nd day of June, 2022.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order and a roll call was taken.

Upon the roll being called, the following Trustees answered present:
Robert Jacobs, Michael Kavanagh, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter.

Chief Sean Fierce, DC Paul Kinsella, LT. Kevin Brow, BC Jeremy Stukel, Commissioners Heather Dauber and Michael Minogue, the promotion and commendation recipients, as well as their families, were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. Regular BOT Meeting, May 17, 2022

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Donna Vegter, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated May 17, 2022, as presented. President Jacobs called for a voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

1. Board/Expenditure Report

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Robert Jacobs, seconded by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., to authorize payment of the Fire Service and Ambulance Fund bills, totaling \$297,369.91, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Michael Kavanagh, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Pension Trustee Re-Appointment.** Discussion/Possible Action on Re-Appointment of District Seat

Prior to this meeting, Trustee Vegter had provided to the Board, a "bio" on Megan Johnson, as a potential candidate to fill the vacant Pension Board Trustee position. Trustee Vegter advised the Board about Megan Johnson's background and qualifications.

The Board held an open discussion on the matter and discussed the term of office.

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Donna Vegter, seconded by Trustee Michael Kavanagh, to appoint Megan Johnson to the vacant Pension Board Trustee position, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Michael Kavanagh, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Board of Trustee Vacant Seat.** Discussion /Possible Action to Fill Vacancy – Hoffmeister.
2. **Resolution 2022-01.** Resolution of Official Recognition of William F. Hoffmeister for Outstanding Public Service and Dedication to Improving the Protection and Public Safety of the Residents of the Frankfort Fire Protection District.
3. **Ordinance No. 252.** An Ordinance Fixing Charges for Life Support Emergency Ambulance Service Provided by the Frankfort Fire Protection District, Will County, Illinois and Repealing Ordinance No. 247 of the Frankfort Fire Protection District.

Board of Trustee Vacant Seat:

Trustee Jacobs stated that a Trustee seat is now vacant. Due to health reasons, William F. Hoffmeister has resigned and moved to Florida with his daughter and son-in-law.

The Board discussed options to honor Bill’s past service. Chief Fierce suggested a “brick” in the FFPD’s Memorial Garden.

Trustee Jacobs presented Commissioner Michael Minogue to fill the vacant Trustee seat.

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Michael Kavanagh, to appoint Michael Minogue to the Board Trustee position, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Michael Kavanagh, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

Michael Minogue wished Bill good health and expressed his appreciation for Bill’s service. Michael said he is “not taking Bill’s place, but walking in his footsteps”.

Resolution 2022-01:

Trustee Jacobs read Resolution 2022-01, honoring William F. Hoffmeister for his service. He also stated that “Bill has always been the voice of reason and calm” and commended Bill for serving as President of the NIAFPD (Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts).

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Michael Kavanagh, to adopt Resolution 2022-01, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Michael Kavanagh, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 252:

Trustee Jacobs briefly explained proposed Ordinance No. 252, increasing the ambulance rate per call to \$2,750.00, effective August 1, 2022.

The Board held an open discussion on the proposed increase and the reasons for it.

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Donna Vegter, to adopt Ordinance No. 252, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. Trustee Michael Kavanagh voted nay. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Personnel –

Chief Fierce advised the Board of the following:

- Hired two (2) Firefighters from the current Eligibility List --
 - Joseph Baron – resident of Frankfort
 - Hayden Peters, son of Lt. Nick Peters
 - Both came from other departments
 - Both took a pay-cut to be members of the FFPD;
- Trustee Vegter discussed the recruiting issue with the Chiefs --
 - An Apprenticeship Program for the Cadets was proposed
 - Conditions of employment
 - Formally negotiate with the Union
 - Possible discussion within a couple of months;
- Lt. Hansen only member out on injury; and,
- Lt. Stanford has retired and moved to Florida.

2. Finance –

Chief Fierce provided the following information:

- Still working on the 2022-2023 Budget – “tweaking” for finalization; and,
- Working with team leaders on accountability of budgets.

Trustee Jacobs commended Chief Fierce with meeting with all three (3) shifts to explain the Budget.

3. Mobile Equipment –

- DC Kinsella reported delivery of the new ladder truck is scheduled for the end of next week; and,
- Keeping the old aerial Truck (0040) as a reserve.

4. Communications –

Chief Fierce stated the new “211” number is live and is connected with Senior Services in Will County.

5. Real Estate –

- The re-roofing of Station 71 is done – no leaks; and,
- The bay door installation is complete at Station 72.

6. Museum & FPD Historical Committee

- Nothing new to report.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS:

None submitted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Trustee Vegter stated that she received numerous “texts” complimenting the first responders from Station 72 on their quick and compassionate action treating the female patient at the pickle ball incident.

Chief Fierce received the following:

- Compliments from the “horse” lady’s agent for taking care of her animals when she was taken to the hospital;
- “Thank you” from the Fire Chief of Calumet City for having an ambulance on “standby”.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None present.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS:

Trustee Nice commended the Chiefs on doing a fine job.

Trustee Vegter expressed her “well wishes” to Bill Hoffmeister, Michael Minogue, the new hires (Joseph and Hayden) and Lt. Stanford.

The Board wished Trustee Vegter a belated birthday with song.

POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION PER STATUTE 5ILCS120/2C FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING LITIGATION, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, REAL ESTATE, PERSONNEL:

None requested.

At 5:50 P.M., Trustee Jacobs announced that the Board would take a brief break.

At 6:10 P.M., Trustee Jacobs resumed the meeting.

PROMOTIONAL CEREMONY:

1. Derek Anderson – Promotion to Lieutenant
2. Joshua Seroka – Promotion to Engineer

Chief Fierce introduced DC Kinsella, Trustees, Commissioners, and Administrative Staff to the audience.

Commissioner Michael Minogue administered the Oath of Office to the promotion recipients:

- Derek Anderson – Engineer to Lieutenant (12-year member)
- Joshua Seroka – Firefighter to Engineer (FFPD Cadet to full-time Firefighter in 2010 -- 12-year member).

FIREFIGHTER COMMENDATION AWARDS:

1. Service Award Presentations

Chief Fierce presented the following Service Awards:

- **Company Commendation –**
 - May 3, 2022, Incident # 202201571, Structure Fire
 - Engine 74 responded – rescued a bedridden elderly grandfather from house fire
 - Acting Officer D. Anderson, Acting Engineer J. Seroka and FF A. Schofield;
- **Individual Commendation –**
 - May 9, 2022, Incident # 202201636, Cardiac Arrest
 - Lt. J. Wander (while off-duty) assisted a Frankfort Police Officer with CPR on an unconscious older man at Home Depot until the ambulance arrived and stayed to assist the crew. Unfortunately, the man expired hours later at the hospital.

FIREFIGHTER COMMENDATION AWARDS: [Continued]

- **Another Company Commendation –**
 - June 9, 2022, Man in Cardiac Arrest at Home Depot (LT. Wander was there again and assisted the Frankfort Police with CPR)
 - The ambulance and engine crews consisted of: BC Hamm, LTs. Faber and Peters, ENGs. Gritsuk and Kramer, FFs Finnegan, Scanlan and Stock. LT. Wander was also recognized.
 - The 49-year-old man survived – had a blocked coronary artery.

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS:

At 6:28 P.M., a **Motion** was made by Trustee Robert Jacobs, seconded by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., that this meeting be adjourned. President Jacobs called for a voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

Michelle Selvaggio, Recording Secretary

Secretary, Board of Trustees

Transcription by: Carolyn J. Williams, Admin. Support/Receptionist