

**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 Seventy-One, 333 W. Nebraska Street, Frankfort, Illinois, in said District at 5:00 P.M., on the 16th day of May 2023.

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, Justin Lohrens, Michael Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter.

Chief Sean Fierce, DC Paul Kinsella, LT. Brian Adcock and Village Trustee Dan Rossi were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

All stood for the Pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

1. Regular BOT Meeting, April 18, 2023

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Donna Vegter, seconded by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated April 18, 2023, 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 \$193,296.67, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Justin Lohrens, Michael Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

SWEAR-IN ELECTED OFFICIALS:

1. Oath of Office – Justin Lohrens
2. Oath of Office – Michael Minogue
3. Oath of Office – Donna Vegter

President Jacobs administered the Oath of Office to each of the following officials recently elected to the positions of Trustee: Justin Lohrens, Michael Minogue and Donna Vegter.

President Jacobs recommended the “Old Business” portion of the meeting precede the “Board Alignment” segment. The Board was open to the idea.

BOARD ALIGNMENT:

1. Reorganize Board of Trustees
2. Realignment of Committees

Trustee Jacobs explained that when new or re-elected Trustees join the Board, a reorganization of Officers takes place.

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

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

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

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Robert Jacobs, that the Board of Trustees' Committee assignments remain the same, as presented. President Jacobs called for a voice vote. All in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Property & Casualty Insurance Renewal:** Presentation by Mitch Backes, AssuredPartners.
2. **Ancillary Life Policy:** Presentation by Mitch Backes, AssuredPartners.
3. **Pension Board Appointment:** Discussion/Possible Action on Appointment of District's Seat.

Mitch Backes, of AssuredPartners, was introduced and presented the following insurance information:

Property & Casualty Insurance Renewal –

- Property and Auto generally show an annual rate increase;
- The FFPD has been with Selective Insurance for the past 4-5 years;
- Renewal premium is up about \$5,000.00 from last year;
- Part of the increase was due to Station 73 being re-evaluated for “guaranteed replacement cost”;
- Guaranteed replacement cost applies to buildings and its contents, and the contents of any vehicle(s) in the building, but not the actual vehicle(s);
- Addressed adjusting vehicle insured value;
- Insurance companies are quicker to “total” an item today due to the high salvage value;
- Presented First Fire Insurance option --
 - Newer to the market, materially the same;
 - \$6,000.00 less than Selective;
 - Offers a 3-year rate lock, with annual renewals;
 - If there is less than a 50% loss ratio, renew at same rate; and,
- Positives on both renewal options.

OLD BUSINESS: [Continued]**Property & Casualty Insurance Renewal –**

Chief Fierce mentioned that last year Selective handled a claim very well that involved a mishap with a patient. At this point, we are dealing with the known (Selective) versus the unknown (First Fire) and Selective offers no rate lock.

The Board held an open discussion regarding the two (2) insurance company proposals.

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Michael Minogue, to change the Property & Casualty Insurance carrier to First Fire, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Justin Lohrens, Michael Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

Ancillary Life Policy –

Mitch Backes stated that the current \$20,000 Group Term Life Policy for the Trustees, Commissioners, Administrative staff and Cadets is with VFIS.

Mitch presented and explained the Provident Group Term and AD&D Insurance proposals.

The Board held an open discussion on the proposals.

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Justin Lohrens, seconded by Trustee Michael Minogue, to change the Ancillary Life Policy Insurance carrier to Provident for Group Term Life “Plan 1” and AD&D “Plan 2, coverages A and B only, with a 3-year term”, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Justin Lohrens, Michael Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

Pension Board Appointment –

Trustee Vegter presented Randy Scianna as a possible Pension Board Appointment candidate. His credentials include the following:

- Resident of Frankfort since 2005;
- BA from Notre Dame University;
- Member of numerous organizations; and,
- Currently a Vice President with Morgan Stanley. Morgan Stanley has confirmed that there would be “no conflict of interest” with his appointment.

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

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Ordinance #256:** An Ordinance Creating and Authorizing a Committee Pursuant to and in Compliance with the Decennial Committees on Local Government.
2. **Investment of Funds with Schwab Investments:** Discussion/Possible Action on the Opening of New Investment Accounts.

NEW BUSINESS: [Continued]**Ordinance #256 –**

Trustee Jacobs reiterated the reasoning for this Ordinance.

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Donna Vegter, seconded by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., to adopt Ordinance #256, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Justin Lohrens, Michael Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

Investment of Funds with Schwab Investments –

Due to the current rise in interest rates for savings/investments and discussions with Chief Fierce, Trustee Jacobs proposed to obtain better interest rates on the District's funds.

Chief Fierce has discussed this re-investment of funds with the following:

- James Howard;
- John Falduto (Schwab); and,
- Old Plank Trail Bank – would provide the rates as Schwab.

Chief Fierce added that the District currently has a Money Market Fund (about \$100,000.00) with “The Illinois Funds” (Local Government Investment Pool) that the Treasurer of Illinois oversees. Old Plank Trail Bank follows “The Illinois Funds” rate adjustments, whereas, Schwab is less volatile.

The Board held an open discussion regarding the possible Old Plank Trail Bank investment strategy.

A **Motion** was made by Trustee Michael Minogue, seconded by Trustee Robert Jacobs, to open a Money Market Investment Account with Old Plank Trail Bank, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Justin Lohrens, Michael Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:**1. Personnel – [Jacobs & Vegter]**

Chief Fierce reported the following:

- Four (4) applications have been received, so far;
- In reference to Lt. Ben Hansen –
 - The “IMEs” have been selected
 - Possibly a Hearing on his case in August
 - Working with the Union and Pension Board regarding his insurance;
- Lt. Kevin Linhart – return to work in four (4) weeks from shoulder surgery;
- Effective June 1 – promotions for Eng. Phil Scaletta and FF/EMT Jacob Smith, and two (2) members off probation; and,
- Promotions, Probation and Life Safety Awards Ceremony will be held at the June BOT meeting at Station 73.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: [Continued]**2. Finance** – [Jacobs & Minogue]

Trustee Minogue confirmed that a Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, at 2:30 P.M. at Station 71.

Chief Fierce stated that if there are no objections, he would like to present the preliminary Budget to the Board, the Union and the membership on shifts following the Finance meeting.

3. Mobile Equipment – [Lohrens & Nice]

DC Kinsella reported the following:

- Members were sent to the FDIC Show to “spec out” a new engine
 - Delivery is two (2) years out; and,
- The delivery date for the new pick-up truck may be sometime in July.

4. Communications – [Lohrens]

DC Kinsella advised the Board that due to LCC increasing their budget, the pay increase is attracting more experienced Dispatchers, thus nearing full staffing.

5. Real Estate – [Jacobs & Vegter]

Chief Fierce advised the Board of the following:

- Parking lots at Stations 71 and 72 have been seal coated. Station 73 is next;
- The fire alarm and sprinkler system inspections have been completed for the stations; and,
- The bathrooms and floors at Station 73 will be redone/updated. The expense will be shared with the Foundation.

6. Museum & FPD Historical Committee – [Nice]

LT. Brian Adcock advised the Board of the following:

- The “911 Memorial Garden” commemorative coin is available for purchase at \$20.00 each; and,
- The dedication of the “Donald Lorenz Memorial Bench” in the “911 Memorial Garden” will be scheduled soon. The family has requested to place some of his ashes under his “honor” brick, as well;
- Project “Fire Buddies” and the Foundation will fund another bench in the garden; and,
- Foundation will be selling “50th Anniversary Carnival” t-shirts.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE ORDERS:

1. South Suburban Welding and Fabricating Co., \$35,000.00 [Repair of Station 73’s Training Cans]

DC Kinsella stated that since an exact quote has not been received for the repair of the training cans, the purchase order has been withdrawn.

In answer to Trustee Nice’s question, it is less expensive to repair the cans than to replace the cans.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None received.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None voiced.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS:

Trustee Lohrens stated he was glad to be back on the Board.

Trustee Jacobs extended “congratulations” to those re-elected.

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

None requested.

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS:

At 6:36 P.M., a **Motion** was made by Larry Nice, Sr, seconded by Trustee Robert Jacobs, 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