

FRANKFORT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FRANKFORT FIRE DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Special Public Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Frankfort Fire Protection District, Will County, Illinois, was held at Fire Station Number One, 333 West Nebraska Street, Frankfort, Illinois, in said District at 9:30 A.M., on Wednesday, the 7th day of September, 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 Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter.

Chief Sean Fierce was also in attendance.

Trustee Michael Kavanagh was absent from said meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Public Hearing.** Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year Commenting June 1, 2022 and Ending May 31, 2023.
2. **Approval of Budget Ordinance #253:** An Ordinance Providing for the Budget and Appropriations of the Frankfort Fire Protection District, Will County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Beginning June 1, 2022 and Ending May 31, 2023.

Trustee Jacobs opened the Public Hearing portion of the meeting and stated that the purpose of the meeting is to approve the 2022-2023 Budget. He noted that no members of the public were present.

Trustee Jacobs read Ordinance #253 and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Trustee Nice commented – “nice job, best Budget we’ve had”.

Trustee Jacobs commented – “appreciates the efforts the staff put in and especially the Chief”.

A **Motion** was by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Donna Vegter, to approve Ordinance #253, as presented. President Jacobs called for a roll call vote: upon the roll being called, the following Trustees voted aye: Robert Jacobs, Michael Minogue, Larry Nice, Sr. and Donna Vegter. All in favor. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None received.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No members of the public were present.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS:

Trustee Nice requested the “Rescue Fund Tax” topic be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next regular BOT meeting.

Chief Fierce made the following comments regarding the “Rescue Fund Tax”:

- It is not a good time to proceed;
- We are capped in property taxes by the PTEL (Property Tax Extension Law)
 - We get whatever is lower than 5%, or whatever CPI is;
- From last year the CPI was 7.5 % and we will be capped at 5%;
- With the Budget that was just approved for this fiscal year, the CPI was at 1.4%;
- Residential tax bills are due to rise next year;
- The current CPI for next year is 8.5%, and the taxing bodies could potentially request a 5% increase; and,
- Hold off on the referendum due to the anticipated tax bill increases from the various taxing bodies, i.e., the Village, Park District, Schools, Roads, Township, etc.

Trustee Nice agreed with Chief Fierce’s recommendation.

Chief Fierce stated that we are limited on how to generate revenue – possibly levying for the most we can get as a District. We are also constantly researching for Grants.

In answer to Trustee Minogue’s question, Chief Fierce said that he could obtain the property tax figures of commercial versus residential properties in the District.

The Board held an open discussion regarding property tax appeals/adjustments.

Trustee Jacobs made the Chiefs aware of an article in the Farm Bureau paper, whereby a revolving loan program (through the State Fire Marshal’s Office) is available for the purchase of fire trucks and ambulances. This program is aimed for smaller departments/districts.

Trustee Jacobs advised the Board that Lt. Nick Sunzere suggested a possible candidate for the vacant Trustee position. Trustee Vegter and myself (Trustee Jacobs) will be meeting with and interviewing this person today, at 5:00 P.M., here at Station 71.

Chief Fierce stated that when vacancies occur, we need to meet with people of the community who have a desire to serve and be of service to the District.

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

None requested.

ADJOURNMENT/RECESS:

At 9:53 A.M., a **Motion** was made by Trustee Larry Nice, Sr., seconded by Trustee Michael Minogue, 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, Administrative Receptionist