

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

The Board of Trustees of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District, Cook County, Illinois convened at the regular meeting place of said Board on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. at 7447 W. Lawrence Avenue, Harwood Heights, Illinois, 60706.

The President called the meeting to order and upon roll call the following named members answered present:

Roll Call:                   Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; absent,  
  
                                  Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
  
                                  Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
  
                                  Trustee Strempek; yes, Chief Stenson; yes.

The pledge was said at the start of the meeting.

**COMMUNICATION WITH AUDIENCE (Public Participation)**

A motion was made by Trustee Szczurek and seconded by Trustee Jarosz to suspend the rules to permit visitors to be recognized. The Board retains the right to refuse to recognize any individual if they feel their comments are not relevant or to "put them off", if they exceed their time allotment. After all have had an opportunity to address the Board, the President moves the rules be reinstated, and the Board will proceed with meeting.

AYES: 6   NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Trustee Martell arrived at 7:01PM

A motion was made by Trustee Martell and seconded by Trustee Szczurek to approve the payment of all current bills.

Roll Call:                   Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; yes,  
  
                                  Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
  
                                  Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
  
                                  Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 6   NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

A motion was made by Trustee Jarosz and seconded by Trustee Szczurek to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting held on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; abstain,  
Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 5 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Schedule of Assets  
(Arising from Cash Transactions)  
December 31, 2009

Assets

Checking and money market accounts (interest rate):

Plaza Bank checking (0.245%)	\$	452
Plaza Bank money market (0.295%)		1,288,954
Plaza Bank checking- Public Education		573
Plaza Bank ambulance billing money market (0.295%)		77,293
Suburban Bank & Trust		<u>5,580</u>

Total checking and money market accounts 1,372,852

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Parkway Bank and Trust (4.34% 05/10/10)	482,420
Plaza Bank (3.07% 01/17/10)	118,683
Plaza Bank (2.23% 03/18/10)	404,344
Plaza Bank (2.00% 06/23/10)	1,243,597
Belmont Bank (4.10% 05/21/11)	444,688
Parkway Bank and Trust (4.35% 04/07/10)	<u>325,683</u>

Total certificates of deposit 3,019,415

Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit \$4,392,267

Trustee Martell stated that we received a majority of our tax money for the year. There are very few unpaid property taxes in the year. There is one CD maturing soon from Plaza Bank, they offered 1.5%, Trustee Martell stated he will look into other banks. Discussion on collateral. Trustee Martell stated that for the audit and it has been a lot of years since he has seen this in 5 or 6 years for being in the black after depreciation. Biggest liability is the Pension fund. Trustee Chmura stated that they the Pension fund has been saying we owe them \$35,000.00 and that he will like to show them how the District has been paying for the audit and Paul Smit accounting for the past years. Discussion. Trustee Martell and Trustee Chmura stated that they have a right to the \$35,000.00, but they will reduce their account by the amount due for the accountant and audit reports. Discussion. Trustee Martell stated that per GASB statement 45 it states that the medical benefits for retirees are not obligations of the District and are obligations of the Pension fund. They state that the Pension fund should have been paying for the medical benefits since end of 2004. Chief Stenson stated that they asked Kurt Hoffman (current auditor) and he stated that it is not saying that. Trustee Chmura stated that he said Kurt Hoffman would look it up and has not gotten back to him. Trustee Martell stated that he researched it. Trustee Chmura stated that he will have Chief Stenson speak with Kurt Hoffman and see if he is agrees and to send a bill to the Pension fund for the money they owe for audit and accounting which will offset the liability owed to them, they can choose to accept it, or they can take it further. Discussion. Trustee Szczurek asked about the comment of warnings of the funds decreasing due to real estate taxes, Trustee Chmura stated they cannot control that, but they need to have the Pension fund make good investment decisions. Trustee Martell explained the equalizer and tax bill with the exemptions. We are in exceptional shape and have reserves. Trustee Martell stated that we have a 4 million dollar reserve and if something bad happened we could go a long way before FEMA.

Motion by Trustee Strempek, seconded by Trustee Jarosz to approve the Treasurer's report as presented from the Financial Statement for December 2009.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; yes,  
Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

#### **Chiefs Report:**

All Trustees received a copy of the alarm report.

All Trustees received a copy of the inspection report along with the list of completed inspections for this month.

The website has been somewhat redesigned. Stan Koy has taken over and he updated with the pictures of the sale of Engine #103 and some winter safety articles. He moved some things around and he is taking the challenge of keeping the site up to date and making changes as needed.

The Audit was completed on time and sent to the comptroller and the county. We did not need an extension. It was a pleasure working with Baker and Kurt Hoffman it was a much better working atmosphere than in the past. There was a lot less stress and wear and tear on the office. I talked with Kurt today to find out if there were any deficiencies, he said there was nothing on our end but a couple of things between Paul and Crowe, he is putting it together now.

Crowe bill for \$410, Kurt said they worked well to help out Baker with the audit and thinks it would be a good idea to pay the invoice. Trustee Chmura stated to put it on the next agenda for a vote by the board.

3 computers out of 5 have been installed and programs transferred. Our IT technician is out of town but should complete the project next week. Everything but the laptops on the ambulance are hard wired and ready to be connected. Discussion on the 5 old computers and what to do with them. Trustee Chmura stated that if there are firemen that want them and there is no personal information on them, then to give them away. Trustee Strempek will look into it.

Mandatory sick time buyback is on the agenda. Trustee Martell and accountant Paul Smit have gone over and approved the calculations.

The addendum to the collective bargaining agreement on education language is on the agenda. This has been worked out between the Finance Committee, Union and the attorneys. It is a recommendation from the Finance committee to approve. Trustee Chmura stated that it was a well partnership working with the Union and Attorney. He feels it went very well.

On the agenda is the appointment of a FOIA officer and a OMA officer. The training will be available in the next month but we need to contact the Attorney General's office with a designated OMA officer by Jan 1st.

NIAFPD continuing education can be attained at the NIAFPD conference in Oak Brook in February. I passed out the schedule if anybody has any questions. They feel it is expensive and there has to be other options. Discussion on the Pension training that is also needed. Trustee Szczurek asked about the 3 hours and who makes it up. Chief Stenson compared it to the training that firefighters do. Trustee Chmura stated it cost too much and for the Chief to look into other options, such as our Attorney coming out and giving a class. Discussion.

A motion was made by Trustee Gelsomino and seconded by Trustee Jarosz to accept the Chiefs report as presented for December 2009.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**Presidents Report:**

Nothing at this time.

**Committee Reports:**

Finance Committee- Chairman Trustee Chmura stated that working with Baker and Baker that things went smooth and it has been a nice transition. Trustee Martell stated that we have come a long way.

Building and Equipment Committee- Chairman Trustee Gelsomino stated there is nothing at this time.

Technology and PR Media Committee- Chairman Trustee Strempek stated that the Chief covered about the computers that were set up. He stated that once the installation of the computers is complete, they will be looking into another IT option due to the difficulty of availability with our current IT provider.

Policy Committee- Chairman Trustee Skyba no present.

Pension Fund- Trustee Chmura stated there is a meeting on Wednesday at 7:00pm.

**Old Business:**

None.

**New Business:**

Motion by Trustee Martell and seconded by Trustee Szczurek to approve the payout of mandatory sick time buyback to the following:

Stanley Grygiel- 144 hours \$4,513.68

Paul Striedl- 144 hours \$4,362.48

John Kovalcik- 48 hours \$2,376.72

Kevin Stenson- 48 hours \$2,706.24

Randy Davis- 14.6526 hours \$409.69

Cyndi Stec- 48 hours \$1,223.04

Total mandatory buyback \$15,591.85

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; yes,  
Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Martell and seconded by Trustee Jarosz to approve the addendum to the collective bargaining agreement Article XXXI 31.01.

Trustee Gelsomino asked for Trustee Chmura to go over it. Trustee Chmura stated that it is regarding schooling and the amount paid out to each firefighter. The most that could be paid out in one year is \$35,000.00. The trustees have discretionary control over the class selection.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; yes,  
Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Chmura seconded by Trustee Strempek to appoint Chief Kevin Stenson as the Norwood Park Fire Protection District Open Meetings Act Officer.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; yes,  
Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Chmura seconded by Trustee Strempek to appoint Deputy Chief John Kovalcik as the Norwood Park Fire Protection District Freedom of Information Officer.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; yes,  
Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion to go into Executive Session was tabled.

Motion by Trustee Martell seconded by Trustee Szczurek to appoint Jerome A. Kolaski, Sr. as Fire Commissioner of the Norwood Park Fire Protection District as of January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 until May 2011.

Roll Call: Trustee Skyba; absent, Trustee Martell; yes,  
Trustee Gelsomino; yes, Trustee Chmura; yes,  
Trustee Jarosz; yes, Trustee Szczurek; yes,  
Trustee Strempek; yes.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Strempek and seconded by Trustee Jarosz to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: 6 NAY: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

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Donald Gelsomino  
Secretary

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James Chmura  
President