

**MINUTES OF THE REGULARLY MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NORWOOD PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
7447 W. LAWRENCE AVE.
HARWOOD HEIGHTS, IL 60706**

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 8th day of January 2024, at 6:30 P.M. at 7447 W. Lawrence Ave., Harwood Heights, Illinois.

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

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes, Chief Blondell; yes.

The pledge was said at the start of the meeting.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE (Public Participation)

A motion was made by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Wegrecki 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: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the following minutes:

- 1- Approve the Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes held on December 11, 2023.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Chiefs' Report:

Chief stated he hopes all is well and that all Trustees received a written report.

Happy New Year!

Last year was our busiest year in the history of the department with 4751 calls. In the last 10 years we have had a 51% increase in call volume, we need to be prepared for the next 10 years.

There is trustee training online January 20th, or you can go in person in February. Please let us know which you would like to attend, and we will sign you up.

Cook County has confirmed receipt of the Levy and Order of Direction.

The audit has been filed.

This board approved new stretcher a while ago. We just received them, and one has been installed and there has been an in-service. The other two will be installed soon. The total cost was around \$170,000. This is going to save the backs/shoulders of our personnel.

Tonight, we have the renewal with PSI ambulance billing. We have not heard back from them so when that motion comes up, we will need to table it.

There is a motion on the agenda for the engine. We will talk more about it when the motion comes up.

Motion by Trustee Mezzano seconded by Trustee Palazzo to approve the Chief's report for December 2023.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Rybak stated she had nothing to report but would like the Finance Committee and Building and Equipment Committee need to schedule a meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
December 31, 2023

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	671,808.94
Wintrust -MM #2776	2,617,251.37
Wintrust- Checking #9771	65,900.08
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	1,694,636.18
Wintrust- Medical #0599	6,920.83
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,147.77
Wintrust- FSA #0713	28,626.26
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	9,887.95
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$5,096,179.38</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (4.75%, 02/10/24)	732,549.72
Belmont Bank (4.90% 07/21/24)	605,479.47
Belmont Bank (4.75% 01/19/24)	423,827.33
Total certificates of deposit	\$1,761,856.52
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$6,858,035.90</u>

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve December's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$533,535.19 and the Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for December 2023.

Trustee Santoro stated that the bills were higher this month due to the payment to the 2% Foreign Fire Fund and the Zoll monitor lease payment. Most of the tax money has been received.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee- Trustee Santoro stated if the engine passes, we will meet to discuss finance options. We have a CD maturing and will add an additional \$500,000. We are shopping rates. Trustee Rybak asked who is financing the engine? Chief stated that the engine will probably be delivered 800 days after it has been ordered. We usually don't pay until delivery.

Building and Equipment Committee-Trustee Wegrecki stated there is nothing to report.

Policy Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated he has nothing to report.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated that Jen Adams is starting a gratitude generation and is having a meeting January 17th at the library to start it off. Discussion.

Paramedic Delia and the Chief are going to RHS to present to the students.

Pension Fund Member & Commissioner Oversight- Trustee Massaro stated there is nothing to report.

Old Business:

None

New Business

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the mandatory sick time buyback to:

David Blondell 19.5 hours \$1,457.82
Larry Curran 144 hours \$6,411.60
Daniel Davila 72 hours \$3,426.48
Stanley Koy 72 hours \$3,369.60
Matthew Mattio 96 hours \$4,311.12
Jeffrey Peistrup 144 hours \$9,473.76
Stephen Swank 120 hours \$4,848.72
Total mandatory sick time buyback \$33,299.10

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion to approve the Paramedic Services of Illinois billing contract was tabled.

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to pass and approve Resolution #24-1, a Resolution authorizing the trade in of Surplus Equipment.

Chief stated that this is a trade in for our old stretchers to offset the cost of the new stretchers that were just installed.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Santoro to the purchase of 2024 Seagrave fire engine through SST Emergency Products at a cost not exceeding \$1,250,000.00.

Chief explained that it is through the HGAC Buy Co Op. Discussion.

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Wegrecki to approve the consent agenda:

- Ratify the payment to AFLAC in the amount of \$9,152.76 for cancer insurance.
- Ratify the payment to Viking Awards in the amount of \$5,376.00 for polos and embroidery.

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Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Palazzo and seconded by Trustee Mezzano to go into Closed Session, Pursuant to Section (2)(c)(1) of the Open Meeting Act (to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body).

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Went into Closed Session at 6:57pm

Returned from Closed Session at 7:22pm

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,
Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes, Chief Blondell; yes.

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Palazzo to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:23pm.

Louis Mezzano
Secretary

Joanne Rybak
President