

**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 10th day of February 2025, at 6:32 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 Peistrup; yes.

The pledge was said at the start of the meeting.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE AUDIENCE (Public Participation)

A motion was made by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Kolaski 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 Palazzo and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the following minutes:

- Board of Trustee Special meeting minutes held on January 13, 2025.
- Board of Trustee Regular meeting minutes held on January 13, 2025.
- Approve and keep closed the January 13, 2025, Closed Session meeting minutes.

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 Mezzano to approve the appointment and contract of Deputy Chief Larry Curran effective February 1, 2025.

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

Swearing in of Deputy Chief Larry Curran

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Santoro to approve the appointment of Mark Blondell to rank of Commander effective February 1, 2025.

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

Swearing in of Commander Mark Blondell.

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Kolaski to approve the appointment of Leigh Unger to the rank of Commander effective February 1, 2025.

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

Swearing in of Commander Leigh Unger.

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Palazzo to approve the promotion of Simon Christensen to the rank of Lieutenant effective February 1, 2025.

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

Swearing in of Lieutenant Simon Christensen.

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Palazzo to go to recess.

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

Entered Recess at 6:47PM

Returned from Recess at 7:03PM

Roll Call: Trustee Kolaski; yes, Trustee Rybak; yes,

Trustee Santoro; yes, Trustee Mezzano; yes,
Trustee Massaro; yes, Trustee Wegrecki; yes,
Trustee Palazzo; yes, Chief Peistrup; yes.

Chiefs' Report:

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

This month we are above average on calls.

The start of the year normally means employees taking less days off which should decrease overtime.

Morale seems to be good.

We are processing a firefighter, and he should start February 16th.

We have 2 candidates remaining on our eligibility list. We are waiting for one to pass the National Paramedic exam and then he will receive an offer. The other candidate will most likely take their final pass. We would exhaust the list at that point and will need to run another entry level firefighter test.

The Lieutenant test process is starting.

One March 10th there will be a commissioner's meeting. By June we will have a new list.

This is the year of physicals for our employees. The doctor will come here to perform the physicals.

We hope to have a walk-thru of the new Day Room next month.

We had a Building and Equipment Committee meeting, Trustee Wegrecki will give the report when we get to that point. One of the items discussed was applying for the Office of the State Fire Marshal grant for the training room.

We should start receiving property tax money in March. Chief would like to meet with the finance committee and discuss getting a 2-year CD for \$1.5 million. This would mature around the time our large equipment purchase will be due.

We will also be looking for a \$200,000 grant for air tanks and masks soon.

Trustees must complete their harassment training and turn in their certificates to the office.

Motion by Trustee Santoro seconded by Trustee Massaro to approve the Chief's report for January 2025.

AYES: 7 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

President's Report: Trustee Rybak stated there is nothing to report.

Schedule of Assets
(Arising from Cash Transactions)
January 31, 2025

Assets

Checking and money market accounts:

Byline Bank ambulance billing money market #4304492	\$332,144.98
Wintrust -MM #2776	2,263,346.54
Wintrust- Checking #9771	26,040.58
Wintrust- Ambulance #2671	2,851,910.46
Wintrust- Medical #0599	261.10
Wintrust- Donation #4129	1,214.60
Wintrust- FSA #0713	23,878.35
Wintrust- Business Account #6537	34,493.83
Total checking and money market accounts	<u>\$5,533,290.44</u>

Certificates of deposit (interest rate and maturity):

Belmont Bank (5.15%, 02/10/25)	1,038,706.02
Belmont Bank (4.909% 07/21/25)	643,706.05
Belmont Bank (4.087% 01/19/26)	1,052,230.97
Total certificates of deposit	<u>\$2,713,291.78</u>
Total checking, money market and certificates of deposit	<u>\$8,267,933.48</u>

Motion by Trustee Santoro and seconded by Trustee Massaro to approve the following:

- January's accounts payable expenditures in the amount of \$723,168.87.
- The Treasurer's Report as presented from the Financial Statements for January 2025.

Trustee Santoro explained that we paid our annual Liability Insurance which is part of the increase this month.

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 a CD matured and was renewed for one year at 4.15%.

Building and Equipment Committee-Trustee Wegrecki stated they had a meeting earlier this evening. They discussed and are recommending the following:

- Clark Dietz's recommendation for the cement apron project at a cost of \$73,200. Equipment will not be able to drive on it for 2 weeks. We will not be doing a heated apron.
- Squads- the 2020 Ford Escape doesn't work well for the District and does not have lights or sirens. They recommend looking for a vehicle at a cost not to exceed \$80,000. The squads will be reassigned once received.
- Working on an OSFM grant to redo the training room. Chief explained that we host many meetings and trainings. It needs an upgrade.
- Day Room remodel continues.
- New radios were received, it will be a month or two before they are in service.
- Expected delivery of new equipment-
 - o 2027 Fire Engine
 - o 2026 Ambulance
 - o 2028 Ambulance

Policy Committee- Trustee Kolaski stated there was nothing to report but will be calling the chief to start review of policy.

Community Relations Committee- Trustee Santoro stated that April 26th is Kindness Day and we will hand out Vial of Life and teach CPR. October 4th will be our Open House. Chief Peistrup explained that our flu vaccine program may have an issue. Resurrection may not be able to order them for us. We are working with ALGH to see our options. Discussion.

Pension Fund Member- Trustee Massaro stated there was nothing to report.

Old Business:

None

Trustee Palazzo left the meeting at 7:25PM

New Business

Motion by Trustee Kolaski and seconded by Trustee Massaro to approve the Award Recommendation for the concrete apron project from Clark Dietz awarding the contract to TCD Concrete Works in an amount not to exceed \$73,200.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Trustee Rybak and seconded by Trustee Wegrecki to approve the purchase of a squad at a cost not to exceed \$80,000.00.

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

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

AYES: 6 NAY: 0 MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:27PM.

Louis Mezzano
Secretary

Joanne Rybak
President