

Minutes of North Tooele Fire District
Board Meeting
Stansbury Park Fire Station
179 Country Club
Stansbury Park, UT 84074

Date: December 20, 2023

Board Members present: Rick Pollock (Board Chair), Mark Herrera, Steve Manzione, Scott Bissegger, and Ken Aldridge.

Staff present: Chief Kevin Nunn, Deputy Chief Jason Brown, Cassandra Ray, Kaylee Moya, and Jack Peck.

Others present: Cris Chavez, Andrew Adams, Kim Clausing, Brian Melvin, Jon Smith, Xander Patterson, Jo LeClaire, Clint Wakefield, Justin French, Rachel Walton, Kirk Arnold, Julius Gallegos, Kurt Stephensen, Daniel Boone, Richard Davis, Curtis Beckstram, Ben Platt, and Jonathan Garrard.

The board meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Rick Pollock at 18:30

Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance – Steve Manzione

Item 3 – Approval of minutes

Approval of November 15th, 2023, and December 4th, 2023, board meeting minutes – Motion to approve by Mark Herrera. 2nd by Steve Manzione, all approved.

Item 4 – New Firefighter Swearing-In Ceremony- None

Item 5 – Firefighter Recognition – award of certifications – Dan Gans – Fire Officer 1.

Item 6 - Monthly Status Report by Chief Kevin Nunn

- Call volume
 - 1227 last year on this date
 - Current – 136, 112 since last Board Meeting (averaging 4 per day)
 - Overlapping call volume – 15 calls for the month, 21% since January 1
- Significant Events
 - Called to I80 for 15 Motor Vehicle Collisions – 1 car hauler transport on fire.
 - Mutual Aid Incident in Grantsville
 - Thanksgiving, Christmas Party, and the Santa Run
 - Compactor Fire in Lake Point – resulted in one minor firefighter injury.
 - James Tarpley Funeral Representation
- Accomplishments
 - 3 Firefighters and BR611 returned from Kentucky on IA Assignment – Task Books with (2) ready for ENGB.
 - Closed on the Stansbury loan – We are receiving RFQs from the Utah Public Procurement System
 - New Hire Orientation with 9 new Volunteers and 3 Part-time
- Planning
 - Recruit Academy F1/F2 Starts January 9th.
 - 2 Paramedic Students start January 8th with UVU, 2 firefighters are starting their pre-requisites for Paramedic School with USU.
- Service Awards
 - 1 Year – Chace Allen, Daniel Miller, Clint Wakefield, Kevin Nunn, Tim Lunn, Jeremy Barnes, Landon Freir.
 - 5 Year – Cody Howard, Cody Colovich, Wil Ward, and Jon Smith.

- 10 Year- Justin French.
- 20 Year – Jason Brown.
- 30 Year – Cassandra Ray.
- **Special Awards**
 - Extraordinary Administrative Service – Kaylee Moya
 - Call of the Year – Mile Marker 15 I-80 Response – Buck Peck / Andrew Adams
 - Dedication to Training – Tim Lunn
 - Dedication to Volunteerism – Cody Colovich
 - Instructional Excellence – Justin French
 - Engagement and Involvement – Tim Heise
 - Firefighter of the Year – Andrew Adams
 - Board Member Excellence – Ken Aldridge

Item 7 – Fire Marshal Monthly Report

- Fire Marshal Jack Peck informed the board that he had met with Lake Point City and that they had passed ordinances for Home based Businesses and that 20+ inspections happened this month.
- Informed the Board that we got compliance from Car/ Truck Credit.

Item 8 – Public Comment – Curtis Beckstram from Pine Canyon

- He has a Fire suppression system in his home and was asking if one of the mini heads go off if it will notify the Fire Department. Board Member Ken Aldridge asked if it was monitored, and Curtis did not know. Fire Marshal Jack Peck advised Curtis that it's not required to be monitored and if it's not monitored that if a sprinkler goes off that it will not notify anyone.

Item 9 – Bills Review

- Steve Manzione presented the bills/bank registers and the financial statements for November 2023 which were reviewed by the board members. Steve Manzione asked if the board had questions, Scott Bissegger had a question about \$50.00 for City of Erda. Cassandra clarified that it was for the Collection of Impact fees.

Item 10 – Contract Review - None

Item 11 – Old Business

- 2023 Amended Budget Review and Discussion – Cassandra Ray explained to the board the changes made to the 2023 budget. Changes made to the General Fund; Grants went from \$100,000 to \$40,000. Due to not receiving all the grants we applied for. Wildland reimbursement went up from \$25,000 to 68,000 due to IROC deployments. Apparatus Repairs and Maintenance went down from \$75,000 to \$55,000. Fire Equipment went down \$5,000. Contribution Fund balance is \$289,178. Changes to the Impact Fee Fund; the Total balance did not change, just the expenses went from \$270,000 to \$52,000 due to hopes of starting on Lake Point but not being able to secure the funds. The \$52,000 is in there to cover what we do need. Changes to the Capital Project fund; there was an increase of funds from \$427,458 to \$717,000 due to Grants Impact.
- 2024 Final Budget Review including review of Capital Projects and step plan – General Fund; not a lot of changes from last review, Left wildland reimbursement at \$25,000 and took out Contribution to fund balance. The total being \$3,179,306. Expenses stayed the same except for an increase in Insurance. Repairs and Maintenance increases to \$75,000 due to 2 Peirce engines needing repairs. Building and grounds increased to support new cabinets in the training room. Expenses look higher and that is due to grant money we have coming in, Fuel, for Paramedic Students commuting to school, Wages for seasonal firefighters. \$21,000 added to fund balance. The Impact fee account has no changes. Capital Projects Fund; Increase of \$76,000 for new projects and \$8,000 for grant reimbursements. Things being added onto Capital Projects list, 3 electric fans, Side by Side, Extrication Equipment, Ambulance, and Inventory Control System. The Step plan is already worked into the budget, which includes a wage increase for employees.

Mark Herrera asked Chief Nunn that once the Paramedic students are done and graduated if their salaries would change and be getting a paramedic wage, Chief Nunn said that we are working on it and stabilizing a plan.

- Discussion of Board workshop – Hold off until new Board Member is on Board.

Item 12 – New Business

- Website RFQ – discussion of contract award – Kim Clausing presented to the board that Streamline got awarded the RFQ for our new website.
- Stansbury Remodel RFQ/RFP – discussion of progress – Deputy Chief Jason Brown explained to the board about the RFQ/RFP is being sent out to contractors and that we will start Construction around the first of March when it is rewarded.
- Board member vacancy – review of applications – Daniel Boone and Kurt Stephensen introduced themselves and talked about their interest in being on the board.

Item 13 – Public Comment – First public comment was from Richard Davis from Stansbury Park. He had some concerns about the budget. His first concern was how do we justify costs in 3 years going up 74%. Chief Nunn explained that in the last 3 years we went from 3 people doing 8 to 5 shifts to 9 full time people rotating out on a 48/96 shift that has people here 24/7, 365 a year. His second concern was the cost of benefits and why they are so high, PIO Jon Smith explained to him that it's not an amount we choose it's the amount provided to us by our providers. His third and final concern was competitive wages and salaries that we as North Tooele Fire District are trying to keep up with agencies like Salt Lake City Fire and Unified Fire. The Board explained that we must stay competitive due to retention reasons, and that if we as a district don't stay competitive in terms of the pay that we lose people to other agencies.

Second Public Comment was from Ben Platt from Erda. He expressed that he thinks that the Firefighters deserve the raise based on the skills that they have and that if we don't pay them enough, we chance it by potentially losing those senior employees.

The third Public Comment was from Curtis Beckstram from Pine Canyon. He expressed that he thinks the pay is ridiculously low and that we should be getting paid for the skills the Firefighters have and what they are worth.

Item 14 – Action Items

- Truth in Taxation Hearing for the 2024 Tax Rate and budget increase – Open by Rick Pollock at 19:39. Steve Manzione pulled his taxes from 2016 excluding the years 2019 and 2021. He explained that in 2016 and 2017 the tax rate was .00017, in 2018 the tax rate was .000751, in 2020 it was .000712, in 2022 it was .000683, and in 2023 it decreased to .000591 and the proposed for 2024 is .000706. The Tax rate still must go to the tax commission, and they determine if we get the proposed tax rate or not. – Closed 19:43 by Steve Manzione.
- Public Hearing for the 2023 Amended Budget and the Final approved Budget - Open by Rick Pollock at 19:43 Public Comment from Curtis Beckstram from Pine Canyon, he asked that if we were to propose a higher tax rate if they would approve it. The Board explained to him that we can only go up to .0008. The Tax commission will tell us what it will be based on Property values, new construction, and impact fees. We do not set the tax rate, we set the budget for it and it gets based off of that. – Closed 20:03 by Rick Pollock.
- Resolution 2023-18 Approval of the 2023 Amended Budget – Motion to Approve by Steve Manzione. 2nd by Mark Herrera, All Approved.
- Resolution 2023-19 Approval of the 2024 Tax Rate and Budget Increase - .000706 - \$398,896. Motion to approve by Ken Aldridge. 2nd by Steve Manzione, All Approved.
- Resolution 2023-20 Approval of the 2024 Final Budget including updating of the capital projects list and payroll administration step plan – Motion to approve by Mark Herrera. 2nd by Scott Bissegger, All Approved.
- Resolution 2023-21 Website RFQ award – Motion to Approve by Steve Manzione. 2nd by Mark Herrera, All Approved.

- Resolution 2023-22 Approval of board member appointments – Motion to Approve Kurt Stephensen as new board member by Mark Herrera. 2nd By Scott Bissegger. Approved by Mark Herrera, Scott Bissegger, Rick Pollock, and Ken Aldridge. Steve Manzione abstained.

Item 15 – Board Calendar

- January 24, 2024, Board Meeting, Stansbury Park Fire Station
- February 21, 2024, Board Meeting, Stansbury Park Fire Station

Item 16 – District Events

- Fire Recruit Academy – January – May 2024, Hosted by North Tooele Fire District
- Winter Fire School – January 19 – 20, 2024, St. George

Item 17 – Public Concerns – Ken Aldridge Thanked NTFD for the award and how it was an honor to serve.

Item 18 – Closed session - None

Item 19 - Adjourn Board Meeting – Motion to adjourn by Ken Aldridge. 2nd by Mark Herrera, all approved.

Adjourned: 20:08