

Regular Meeting
November 20, 2007

The Regular Meeting was called to order by President Saas at 7:38 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Members Present: President Phillip J. Saas, Secretary George T. Kallas, Trustee Gary L. Muehlfelt, Trustee William R. Thar and Trustee Mark Klage.

Also Present: Chief Phillip A. DiMenza and Attorney Bernie K. Weiler.

Minutes: The minutes of the Regular Meeting of 10/16/07 were distributed prior to the meeting. There being no corrections, Trustee Thar made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Trustee Kallas. All in favor.

Remarks From Floor: None.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Harris reviewed his report for October. The beginning balance in the checking account and general money market account was \$1,363,870.45. After deposits of \$97,110.44 and disbursements of \$156,167.77, the ending balance for those accounts was \$1,304,813.12. The balance for the certificates of deposit as of 10/31/07 was \$1,471,006.29. There being no questions, Trustee Klage made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Trustee Muehlfelt. All in favor.

The Annual Audit Report was received by the District for fiscal year 2007/2008. There being no questions, Trustee Kallas made a motion to accept the audit report, seconded by Trustee Thar. All in favor.

Chief's Report: Chief DiMenza advised the Board that on Friday, November 16, at approximately 12:05 p.m., a lady whom he believed to be Dorothy Hanlock came into the fire station and handed him a bundle of papers bound together, with a cover letter that stated that they were petitions to have the Trustees of the Winfield Fire Protection District elected rather than appointed. He signed the receipt for those papers as the Fire Chief and not on behalf of the Board of Trustees. President Saas asked Attorney Weiler what the board needed to do regarding that situation. Attorney Weiler stated that Chief DiMenza contacted him about that, and he stated that the law is very specific about the presenting of petitions of this sort. The Fire Protection Act governs what should be done and how a public petition is presented, particular with respect to a petition to convert an appointed board to an elected board. He stated that the statute is very clear, in that it stated that the petition has to be presented to the Board of Trustees and then it is to be handed off to the Secretary, who is then going to certify it. With respect to what to do about this, until it is presented to the Trustees, Attorney Weiler felt that the Board can't state that it was deposited with the officer that is designated in the statute. The Fire Chief is the Chief of the Fire Department, not Chief of the Board of Trustees. He stated that if there was someone present at the meeting to actually present the petitions, the Board would gladly accept them. Since there was no one present in the capacity, Attorney Weiler recommended that

the District return the petitions to the chief proponent and their attorney with a request that it be properly presented to the Board of Trustees. The Board agreed that Attorney Weiler would take whatever steps are necessary to protect the District's interests in this matter.

Deputy Chief's Report: Deputy Chief Lewis provided the Board with a written report in his absence. President Saas spoke about a meeting that he and Deputy Chief Lewis attended with the Village, a representative from each taxing body in the District and Central DuPage Hospital. The purpose of this meeting was to get a preliminary idea of how the hospital can help the community and to find out what the needs are of each taxing body. There will be additional meetings in the future.

Attorney's Report: Attorney Weiler stated received an agreement from Chief DiMenza that was created originally for the full-time firefighters so that could come here, be trained, receive equipment, etc. Then if they do not continue their employment with the District, the employee would be responsible for reimbursing the District for those expenses. Attorney Weiler would like to re-draft this policy and have it available for the next meeting.

Trustee Kallas asked if these individuals are considered "employees" while they are being trained and how they are paid for their time, and Chief DiMenza explained that they are employees, and they are paid to attend the Monday night training sessions.

Old Business: None.

Consent Agenda: The items on the consent agenda were the Monthly Run Reports for October and a thank-you letter. President Saas read the thank-you letter into the record. In addition, President Saas spoke about the tremendous response to the Department Open House in October. He stated that it was well-attended by over 500 people, and the Board as a whole expressed their appreciation to all of the individuals who took part in making that event a success. Trustee Kallas made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Trustee Muehlfelt. All in favor.

New Business: President Saas made a motion to set the Public Hearing for Tax Levy Ordinance No. 268 for Tuesday, December 18, 2007 at 7:30 p.m., just prior to the regular District Meeting. That motion was seconded by Trustee Kallas. All in favor.

Attorney Weiler stated that when he prepared the Tax Referendum Resolution, he had been working with the incorrect figures. He asked that the Board take a brief recess in order for him to recalculate the figures. The Board agreed to complete the remainder of the meeting and then take a recess at that time.

If any Trustees would like to attend the Northern Illinois Alliance of Fire Protection Districts training conference on January 31, 2008, please let Robin know by the December meeting so that she can submit a timely RSVP list.

Payment of Bills: The monthly bill list for November was provided to the Board prior to the meeting indicating a total of \$75,278.92. There being no questions, Trustee Klage made a motion to pay the bills as presented, seconded by Trustee Kallas. All in favor.

Other Business: Trustee Muehlfelt asked Chief DiMenza if the District has had the need to enforce the False Alarm Ordinance, as he has noticed a number of responses to one specific location. Chief DiMenza stated that the location he is thinking of did not fall within the criteria to be penalized by the False Alarm Ordinance, because the alarm is being triggered by the telephone company, which is not the fault of the business owner.

President Saas then made a motion to recess for a few minutes to allow Attorney Weiler to recalculate the figures on the Tax Referendum Resolution. That motion was seconded by Trustee Klage. All in favor. The meeting was recessed at 8:07 p.m.

(Recess)

The meeting was reconvened at 8:13 p.m. with the same individuals present. Attorney Weiler stated that rather than making the Board wait until the figures are all complete, the Board just needs to adopt Resolution No. 2007-102. This Resolution will request an increased tax levy extension limitation for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 for the election being held on the 5th day of February, 2008, calling for the tax limitation to be placed at 12.5% as opposed to the lesser of 5% or the Consumer Price Index. The law states that the District would then attach to that Resolution information that would show the voters what the effect would be on property with a fair market value of \$100,000.00. At Attorney Weiler's suggestion, Trustee Klage made a motion to adopt Resolution 2007-102, with the expectation that Attorney Weiler will adjust the numbers correctly and include them with that resolution. That motion was seconded by Trustee Kallas. All in favor by roll call vote.

There being no further business, President Saas made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss possible land acquisition and personnel, seconded by Trustee Thar. All in favor. The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 8:17 p.m.

Phillip J. Saas, President

Robin K. Youngberg, Recording Secretary