Westfield Fire and Rescue District

Regular Meeting
December 19th, 2022

Guests- Ron Oiler, Carol Rumburg, Mayor Tom Horwedel

Trustee Patterson commenced the in-person and zoom meeting on December 19th, at 6:30 pm. Roll call: Patterson-here, Horner- here, Schmidt- here (via Zoom.) Meeting commenced after a moment of silence to recognize all first responders during this challenging time.

Trustee Patterson noted that since Trustee Schmidt is attending via Zoom, he is not able to vote at this meeting.

Minutes to be Approved

-December 5th, 2022, Regular Meeting- ***Trustee Patterson motions to approve the minutes as presented; seconded by Horner. Roll call: Patterson-aye, Horner-aye, Schmidt-abstain (present via Zoom). Motion passes.***

Comments from the floor

- Westfield Center village mayor Tom Horwedel in attendance to discuss the upcoming WFRD levy. The mayor noted that whatever the township residents are assessed is what the village will be assessed. The Board of Trustees agree with this statement. The legal counsel for the village will discuss the details with Heidi Carroll, who is legal counsel for the Township. A levy for the WFRD will be placed on the May 2023 ballot.

Chief's Report

-Chief Cavanaugh in attendance.

Business- 29 calls for the month thus far, 13 EMT, 15 fire and 1 MVA. Two (2) runs were missed this month due to no personnel available.

-Kennedy Lonsbury and Dr. Kelly Parker will be sworn in at the January 16th, 2023, meeting. Kennedy is an EMT, and Canaan Township will be sending her to fire school. She plans to work with both departments. Kelly is self-paying for EMT school and then moving on to paramedic school. She is retiring from her veterinary medicine practice and wants to give back to the community.

-Grain bin fire on Seville Rd that started on December 7th. Over 40,000 gallons of water and 25 gallons of foam were used over the course of the week to extinguish the fire (s).

Technology-transitioning from Ipad Mobile Solutions to ESO starting Tuesday, December 20th. The EMS

Education- All students registered with the Medina County Career Center and classes will begin just after the first of the year. Some of the FF1 course will be held at WFRD which will give our five students a chance to become familiar with the equipment we use.

Continuing to work with Heidi Carroll on contract language for new hires that receive educational benefits from the township.

Staffing- Staffing proposal for 2023, our community is at a high risk with the current staffing model. Chief Cavanaugh provided the Board of Trustees with the detailed breakdown of not having adequate staffing to support the increasing health risks of the township and village populations. Chief is requesting to simplify payroll by eliminating quarterly payroll and placing everyone on a bi-weekly payroll. Effective January 1st, the station will be staffed 12 hours a day. A stipend will be paid for two personnel to remain at the station overnight. This staffing model can be accomplished by reducing the current budget by 5%, EMS billing and cost recovery, current allocated money for payroll, grants, and levy money to sustain and improve on the service.

Trustee Patterson motions to allow WFRD to soft bill the Seville Rd. farmers insurance company for the foam usage on the grain bin fire; seconded by Horner. Roll call: Patterson-aye, Horner-aye, Schmidt (abstain, present via Zoom). Motion passes.

Old Business

- Prosecutor's Office is working with the Board of Trustees to produce wording for the upcoming levy. Anticipating placing the levy on the May 2023 ballot.

New Business

- IHOP is open for business.

Fiscal Officer Report

- FO Kurtz in attendance via Zoom.
    - Appropriation Supplemental (See Attached)
    - Fund Status (See Attached)
        - Secondary Checking- $102,383.81 (money market)
        - Primary Checking- $165,632.82
        - Total Fund status- $268,016.63
    - December Payment Listing- totals $20,175.46 (See attached)

Trustee Patterson motions to pay the bills totaling $20,175.46; seconded by Horner. Roll call: Patterson-aye, Horner-aye, Schmidt-abstain (present via Zoom). Motion passes.

Correspondence

- VFIS was provided to the Board of Trustees.
- Temporary Appropriations for 2023.

Trustee Horner motions to approve the 2023 temporary appropriations for WFRD in the amount of $260,409.03 and final appropriations of $694,294.70; seconded by Patterson. Roll call: Patterson-aye, Horner-aye, Schmidt- abstain (present via Zoom). Motions passes.

Announcements

- Next regular and organizational meeting will be Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023, at 6:30pm via Zoom and in person.

Trustee Patterson makes a motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm; seconded by Horner. Roll call: Patterson-aye, Horner-aye, Schmidt- abstain (present via Zoom). Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amy M. Banfield

Date approved: 1/3/23

Trustee Kent Patterson, Chair

Trustee Craig Horner, Vice-Chair

Trustee Michael Schmidt, Board Member