

Approved, Board Mtg OF 2-23-17

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 26, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, January 26, 2017, in the Board Room located in the Administration Building, 111 Laura K Drive, O'Fallon, MO. Director Laughlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Notice of said meeting had been provided at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by posting the meeting time in the case on the outside wall of the Administrative Offices. The following Directors were present: Director Bill Laughlin, Director Matt Simmons, and Director Matt Gober. The following staff members were present: Chief Tom Vineyard, Assistant Chief Ken Vomund, Assistant Chief Brian Moore, Battalion Chief Mel Emge, Shop Steward Captain Eric Johnston, and Board Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido. Fire Marshal Mark Morrison was excused.

The following guests were present: Rick Rognan, CPA.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Vineyard followed by Captain Johnston's reading of the Firefighter Prayer.

Director Laughlin asked for any questions or comments regarding the Board Meeting Minutes of December 29, 2016 and January 12, 2017. There being none, Director Laughlin made a motion to approve the minutes of the prior Regular Board Meeting of December 29, 2016, and Regular Board Work Session of January 12, 2017, as presented, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

Director Gober stated a general checking account balance of \$1,507,662.61. There were no questions. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve payment of bills as presented, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

CITIZEN COMMENTS - None.

COMMUNICATIONS

Director Laughlin congratulated all who supported the recent St. Baldrick's fundraiser event at Turtle Creek Pub & Grill. A special thank you to Mark and Debbie Stenger who bid above & beyond on the main auction item in support of this cause.

Administrative Assistant Lucido read the following correspondence:

1. A card from Jerry & Bernice Watson, thanking the firefighters for replacing their smoke detector batteries.
2. A letter from Mr. and Mrs. Krull, thanking off-duty Firefighter/Engineer Mark Livingston for stopping and helping them when their vehicle went off the road into a ditch during an ice storm, ensuring they were safe, kept them warm in his truck, and stayed with them until they were able to get assistance.
3. A letter from St. Vincent DePaul Society-Assumption Conference thanking Captain Mary Emge and the O'Fallon Fire Protection District members for coordinating efforts to assist in-need families and their children during the Christmas Holidays, and for adopting two of their families.
4. A letter from St. Vincent DePaul Society-Assumption Conference thanking Assistant Chief Brian Moore and the O'Fallon Fire Protection District's "strong firefighters" who gave their time and energy moving heavy boxes of food to assist in the preparation of their Christmas programs. They reported assisting 108 local families this Christmas season with food and toys.

They also thanked the District members for the donation and delivery of 15 boxes of non-perishable food items.

OLD BUSINESS

There was further discussion regarding \$2.2 million in unissued Bonds. Per Chief Vineyard: He met with Joy Howard who conducted a Bond rating call this past week, with excellent results. The District will be issued an Aa2 Bond Rating. Per Mr. Rognan, there are only two higher ratings (AaaB, Aa1), and many lower ratings, so the District's financial health helped ensure this very good rating. Bond issuance should close sometime in March 2017.

There was further discussion regarding the Building Committee. Per Chief Vineyard: We are finalizing small projects, and working with Weis Design on station renovations.

NEW BUSINESS

Rick Rognan, CPA, gave the District's monthly Financial Report for the period ending December 2016. He reviewed line items. The District is currently \$168,684.00 under budget for 2016. The health of the District's Reserves, 2016 Budget, and the recent Tax Increase passing by 67% all contributed to the District receive an excellent Moody's Bond rating. Interest received during 2016 came in \$26,505 higher than projected; and Revenue is \$308,742 higher than projected. \$478,369 can be placed into the District's Reserves. The budget numbers reflect cost savings on expenses and does not include the proceeds from the sale of the East Elm building. Overall the District is in very good shape. Mr. Rognan discussed making budget adjustments once per year instead of throughout the year, and recommended the Board remain conservative and continue conducting business as they currently are.

Chief Vineyard explained the current employee Pension Loan Program, and the Pension Board's recommended modifications to the 457 Loan Program. There will be further information on this in February; Attorney O'Brien is working on revising the plan documents. Assistant Chief Moore explained the 457 matching fund program and why matching funds will be placed in the employee's money purchase plan.

Chief Vineyard stated he was at Jefferson City meeting with several representatives regarding the senate and house bills that appear to attack public employee's union organizations. He discussed the particulars of each bill regarding Right to Work, and its impact on Teachers, Police, and Firefighters. He stated he and area Chiefs will be making trips to Jefferson City to keep lines of communication open.

Director Laughlin made a motion to go into Closed Session at 7:40 p.m., under RSMo Section 610.021 (1) Confidential or privileged communications between a public governmental body and its attorneys; 610.021 (2) Leasing, purchase or sale of real estate by public government body; (12) Any documents related to a negotiated contract, and (13) Personnel Records, after a 20 minute break seconded by Director Gober.

Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes:	(3)	Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober
Nays:	(0)	None
Absent:	(0)	None

Motion declared and carried.

A motion was made at 8:35 p.m. by Director Laughlin to adjourn the Closed Session and reconvene in Open Session, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

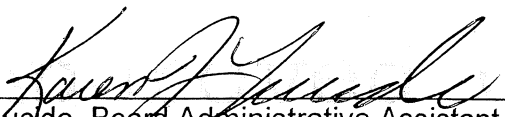
Director Laughlin announced the next Board Work Session is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

Ayes: (3) Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober
Nays: (0) None
Absent: (0) None
Motion declared and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.


William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST: 
Karen Lucido, Board Administrative Assistant
Recording Secretary