

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING and PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 9, 2021

A Regular Session and Public Hearing of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, September 9, 2021, via Zoom due to COVID-19. 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, and the public hearing was published according to statute. The following Directors were present: Director Bill Laughlin, Director Matt Gober, and Director Matt Simmons. The following staff members were present: Chief Tom Vineyard, Assistant Chief Ken Vomund, Assistant Chief Andy Parrish, Battalion Chiefs Brian Moore and Matt Braile, Captains Mike Alcorn, Kevin Davis, Gary McCutchen, Eric Johnston, Shop Rep Firefighter Brett Tichenor, numerous employees, and Board Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido.

The following guests were present: Attorney Jon Bruntrager, and Rick Rognan, CPA

The Pledge of Allegiance was followed by the reading of the Firefighter Prayer.

PUBLIC HEARING

Director Laughlin opened the Public Hearing, and recognized Rick Rognan, CPA. Mr. Rognan reviewed the Post BOE tax rates for general fund, pension fund, and debt service fund, with a total proposed tax rate of \$0.9300 Cents per one hundred dollars assessed valuation. Discussion held. Director Laughlin opened the floor to public comments. There being none, a motion was made by Director Laughlin to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Motion declared and carried.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Mr. Rognan reviewed Resolution 2021-08 for the 2021 tax levy within the District, that included a total of \$0.7430 Cents per one hundred dollars assessed valuation for general operating expenses; \$0.1375 Cents per one hundred dollars assessed

Approved at 9-23-21 Board Mtg

valuation to fund the pension plan, and \$0.0495 Cents per one hundred dollars assessed valuation required for debt service; and setting the District's reimbursement rate at 100% pursuant to Senate Bill 870. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve Resolution 2021-08 as presented, seconded by Director Simmons. Resolution attached as Exhibit I. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Mr. Rognan reviewed the monthly financial report for month-ended August 2021. The District is projected to remain within budget by the end of 2021; anticipate \$8.8 million dollars will be in District Reserves by year-end. Chief Vineyard stated the District received good news on its worker comp premiums that should be reduced by approximately \$200,000 in 2022.

Chief Vineyard reviewed the proposed 2022 Budget Requests, stating a Staff Vehicle for Assistant Chief Parrish is a scheduled purchase for 2022. To receive 2021 pricing the dealer requested a letter of intent to purchase be sent now. Discussion held. Consensus to send the dealer a letter of intent to purchase a staff vehicle to retain 2021 pricing; purchase will be in 2022. The current Assistant Chief's vehicle will then be placed in reserve at station four, and the 2001 Tahoe currently in reserve at station four will be sold. There were no further questions or comments on the 2022 budget requests.

Chief Vineyard stated he has been in meetings with Attorney O'Brien regarding finalizing documentation for the defined pension plan. There is a Special Pension Board Meeting scheduled for September 14, 2021, when Attorney O'Brien will review plan documents and transfer agreement, pending documentation that is still needed from Empower. Discussion held regarding various specifics of the proposed defined pension plan.

Assistant Chief Parrish stated he has met with Ms. Herrin who is a professional photographer that has availed her services to the District, taking photographs of scenes, events, personnel, etc., at no charge over the last few years. Herrin Photography also does work for Central County Fire & Rescue and Cottleville Fire Protection District. Assistant Chief Parrish requested approval to hire Herrin Photography for photography

and videography services; she would work with the District's current website administrator to personalize pictures on our site and facebook page for the public. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve, J. Herrin Photography's proposal to provide photography services for the District at an inclusive retainer fee of \$1,500.00 per month; Chief Vineyard authorized to sign proposal, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

LABOR MANAGEMENT

Chief Vineyard stated that the District is anticipating quite a few retirements in 2022 and he along with Labor Management has been reviewing the Firefighter EMT/P Hiring process, and are requesting Board approval to begin the process for a Firefighter EMT/P Hiring Pool, with the goal to have this list compiled by the end of October 2021. New Hires would be required to be licensed paramedics and have proof of COVID-19 vaccination to be hired. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve moving forward with the hiring process for Firefighter-EMT/P Hiring Pool, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

Chief Vineyard stated that the District's Assistant Chief/Training has given notice of retirement in January 2022. He reviewed the current promotional process for this position, and would like a replacement in place by November to be able to shadow Assistant Chief Vomund. Discussion held. A motion was made by Director Laughlin to approve moving forward with the promotional process for Assistant Chief/Training, seconded by Director Gober. Upon roll call the vote was:

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

OPERATIONS

Chief Vineyard stated that due to COVID-19, the mask policy for District members remains unchanged: Masks must be worn by all members whenever indoors when on duty, such as schools, grocery stores, resident's homes, etc., or when social distancing is not possible outdoors. On medical calls a surgical mask is sufficient along with appropriate PPE; whenever possible COVID medical call, N95 masks, eye protection, gloves are required. Missouri's emergency order regarding presumptive COVID expired August 27, so any member who contracts COVID while on duty will be handled under worker comp, and the employee must prove they caught COVID on duty. If COVID was not caught on duty, the employee must use their sick or vacation time. Discussion held regarding ride along's being vaccinated. Discussion held. Consensus that proof of COVID vaccine is required prior to any person being allowed for a ride along.

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Assistant Chief Parrish thanked the Board of Directors, Chief, and District members for the flowers and expressions of sympathy for he and his wife, Lori, on the loss of her mother.

Director Laughlin announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., via Zoom due to COVID-19.

A motion was made by Director Laughlin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Gober. Unanimous consent to Adjourn:

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

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.



William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:


Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary
Board Administrative Assistant

O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-08

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District of St. Charles County, Missouri, at a public hearing held September 9, 2021, discussed the financial affairs and expenses for the O'Fallon Fire Protection District's 2022 fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing is required by the Missouri Revised Statutes concerning the proposed budget and tax rate with said Public Hearing being held on September 9, 2021, and,

WHEREAS, The Board of Directors of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District of St. Charles County, Missouri, after study of the District's finances and contingent expenses for 2022, which includes general operating, pension and debt service expenses, have arrived at a regular tax levy for the 2021 tax year for utilization in the 2022 fiscal year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

The 2021 tax levy within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District, when levied upon every dollar of taxable tangible property within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District shown by the last completed assessment, shall be a total of **\$0.9300 Cents** per one hundred (\$100.00) dollars assessed valuation and is broken down as follows:

1. The 2021 tax levy within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District, when levied upon every dollar of taxable tangible property within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District shown by the last completed assessment, shall be a total of **\$0.7430 Cents** per one hundred (\$100.00) dollars assessed valuation for the general operating expenses as provided in Sections 321.610 and 321.241 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.
2. The 2021 tax levy within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District, when levied upon every dollar of taxable tangible property within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District shown by the last completed assessment, shall be a total of **\$0.1375 Cents** per one hundred (\$100.00) dollars assessed valuation for the purpose of providing revenue to fund the employees pension plan of the District as provided in Section 321.610 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.

- 3. The 2021 tax levy within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District, when levied upon every dollar of taxable tangible property within the O'Fallon Fire Protection District shown by the last completed assessment, shall be a total of **\$0.0495 Cents** per one hundred (\$100.00) dollars assessed valuation for the purpose of providing revenue required for debt service as provided in Section 321.260 and 321.330 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri.
- 4. Pursuant to Senate Bill 870 enacted into law by the 99th General Assembly of the Missouri Legislature and signed by the Governor, the District shall set an annual reimbursement rate for financing pursuant to Chapter 99 RSMo, Chapter 100 RSMo and Chapter 353 RSMo. **The reimbursement rate for the District beginning upon the approval of the District's tax rate shall be 100%.** Beginning August 28, 2018 and thereafter, the District shall be entitled to reimbursement from the special allocation funds as defined in Chapter 99 RSMo in the amount of 100% of the District's tax. **This applies to all tax increment financing (TIF) projects approved after August 28, 2004.** Moreover, the District shall be reimbursed an amount of 100% of the ad valorem real, personal and other tangible property tax revenues that the District would have received in the absence of a tax abatement under Chapter 100 RSMo and Chapter 353 RSMo. **These reimbursements are applicable to all tax increment financing, tax abatements and special allocation funds financing or amendments filed after August 28, 2018.**
- 5. A duly authenticated copy of this Resolution is to be submitted to the Collector of Revenue of St. Charles County, Missouri for collection of the tax rate upon the assessed valuation of all taxable tangible property within the District, in addition to several other taxes, as may be levied by the St. Charles County Council.

THIS RESOLUTION UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED THIS 9th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

_____, Chairman

ATTEST:

_____, Treasurer

_____, Secretary

(SEAL)