

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

Date December 15, 2022

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

Staff present: Chief Kevin Nunn, and Cassandra Ray and Sharmae Swartzfager.

Others present: Jason Brown, Buck Peck, Kirk Arnold, Chris Unsworth, Daniel Miller, Kailee Petersen, Ty Rundle, Cody Colovich, Kathleen VonHatten, Richard Davis, Joyce Jacobson, Ivan Beddell, Jenny Burr, Jared Hamner.

The board meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by Rick Pollock at 18:31 hours.

Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance – Ken Aldridge.

Item 3 –Approval of minutes

- Approval of November 17, 2022, board meeting minutes. - Motion to approve Steve Manzione. 2nd by Mark Herrera. All approved.

Item 4 - New Firefighter Swearing-In Ceremony- None.

Item 5 - Firefighter recognition – Chief Recognitions Awards - Andrew Adams and Justin French. Fire Officer of the Year – Jason Brown. Firefighter of the Year Award - Jo LeClaire. Promotion to Lieutenant – Taylor Johnson. Excellence in EMS – Taylor Johnson. Dedication to the District – Mike Frieden. Service Awards 1 year - Kailee Petersen, Chandler Bandley, Criss Chavez, Tyson Bowen, Steffanie Peck. Service Awards 5 year - Nate Jones and Sharmae Swartzfager. Service Awards 10 year – Brandi Garcia.

Item 6 - Monthly Status Report by Chief Nunn

- Call volume year to date is at 1207, with last year at 1166, a 3.5% increase from last year. Overlapping call volume is up 19%. NTFD had 8 calls in a 12-hour period from the 52 -76 mm on I-80, Erda kitchen cooking fire, kitchen fire on Fireside in Stansbury Park, Structure Fire on Country Club in Stansbury Park, Grantsville Mutual Aid structure fire. Tractor Trailer Fire at 56mm on I-80.
- NTFD participated in Tooele City Christmas Parade, Several neighborhood Santa parades, and Ice Rescue training.
- Currently working on the County CIP so NTFD can apply for State grants.
- Received 2020 SHSP Grant reimbursement \$12,000, Forestry Fire and State Lands Grant Reimbursement \$9,200 and waiting on the 2021 SHSP grant reimbursement.
- NTFD will be posting the Fire Marshal position next week.

Item 7 – Public Comment

Ivan Beddell expressed on the tax notification the need to see NTFD's 3-year budget information (2021, 2022, 2023) for the citizens to view on the post card. He did not understand why NTFD was putting out dumpsters for the citizens and was this cost necessary? Joyce Jacobson expressed her concerns of her taxes increasing at a rate higher than Mr. Beddell. Where does the tax increase stop?

Item 8 – Bills Review

- Steve Manzione presented the bills/bank registers and the financial statements for November 2022 which were reviewed by the board members. He asked if anyone had questions – None.

Item 9 – Contract Review

- None.

Item 10 – Old Business

- None.

Item 11 – New Business

- 2022 Amended Budget Review and discussion – Chief Nunn presented the 2022 Final Amended Budget. Changes were made in the General Fund to account for estimated year end actuals in Revenues and Expenses. There was an increase in Expenditures for Technology service and maintenance, Wildland PPE, legal notice, and community outreach for the Wildland Participation Commitment. Other expenditures were amended to estimate year end actuals.
Chief Nunn explained the Community outreach program requires NTFD to pay out \$85,000.00 every year in mitigation for the Wildland Participation Commitment. Scott Bissegger added it is an insurance fund that NTFD pays into to cover fire expense in the county. When NTFD brings in type 1A teams and big aircraft's the pay back cost is not breaking the county or city budget. Ken Aldridge added that if we did not pay into the mitigation the cost would fall back on the county to pay for big aircrafts and clean up crews of wildland fires in our area. Cassandra Ray explained that when Erda incorporated our dollar commitment amount in mitigation significantly increased, around \$40,000 dollars. Chief Nunn stated if you look at a map and see what Erda incorporated the land goes all the way up to the top of the mountain. The Utah Wildfire Risk Assessment Profile takes into account the area and states Erda is a significant risk for fire and a dollar amount was assigned and added to what NTFD is responsible for in mitigation. Joyce Jacobson asked before being incorporated Erda was still covered by NTFD how does this change because they are now Erda City? Ken Aldridge explained because Erda City is now considered a municipality and no longer a rural county unincorporated county. NTFD does not make the rates. It was asked if Lake Point will see the same thing happen and Scott Bissegger explained that Lake Point had its own water system and did not have land that went up the side of the mountain.
Changes were made to the Impact Fee Account Fund to true up existing account balances with the purchase of a new fire truck, completion of the West Erda water line and the architectural designs for Station 62 remodel.
Changes were made to the Capital Projects budget to true up existing account balances with the purchase of cardiac monitors, a new brush truck and the architectural designs for Station 61 remodel. A decrease in expenditures was noted due to projects that were re-prioritized in 2022 and moved to future years. 2022 Amended Budget Amounts: General Fund \$2,223,294.00; Impact Fee Account \$1,149,721.00; Capital Projects Account \$630,678.00. A public hearing for the 2022 Amended budget has been scheduled for tonight December 15, 2022.
- 2023 Final Budget Review including review of Capital Projects and step plan – Chief Nunn presented the 2023 Final Budget. Changes made since the tentative budget approval: General Fund changes: There was no wildland reimbursement. Wages increased to account for the addition of full time Fire Marshal and Deputy Chief. Decreases included Professional fees, legal notice, and community outreach. Impact Fee Fund Changes: true up the Balance Carry Forward from 2022 and Funds encumbered for future projects.

Capital Project Fund Changes: true up the Balance Carry Forward from 2022 and true up funds encumbered for future projects. The Capital Projects list was reviewed. General Fund \$2,364,994.00; Impact Fee Account \$519,401.00; Capital Projects Account \$380,573.00. A public hearing for the 2023 Final budget has been scheduled for tonight December 15, 2022.

- Consent Agenda #7 Board, HR, and payroll policies – Cassandra Ray presented the new changes for the Board, HR and payroll policies. Chief Nunn explained the program and the cost of short-term and long-term disability insurance.

Item 12 – Public Comment

Richard Davis talked about NTFD saving his wife's life and his appreciation for what they do. His concern was the increase in taxes and the impact it will have on his set income. Additional members of the public referred to the Board to postponing the vote until other options could be considered and asked the Board to reject the tax increase. Refer to the attached sign in sheet for the public attendees.

Item 13 – Action Items

- Truth in Taxation Hearing for the 2023 tax rate. Rick Pollock opened The Truth and Taxation Hearing for the 2023 tax rate 20:13. A letter to the Board was received by a member of the public, Raymond and Carolyn Winn, expressing appreciation for the fire district and asked the Board to consider reducing the quality of coverage instead of raising taxes. The letter was read aloud by Rick Pollock. Several NTFD members attended as private citizens and expressed the need for the tax increase. They stated that live in this district and are also affected by the tax increase and encouraged the other members of the public to attend more meetings and be more involved. The Truth and Taxation Hearing for the 2023 tax rate was closed by Rick Pollock at 20:31.
- Public Hearing for the 2022 Amended Budget and the 2023 Final Approved Budget - Rick Pollock opened a public hearing for the 2022 Amended Budget and the 2023 Final Approved Budget at 20:27. Copies of the budget were made available to the public. Kathleen VonHatten stated that she was unaware of what was happening in the district or that we needed to hire two positions. She was encouraged to subscribe to the NTFD on the public meeting notice website and follow our social media. The public hearing was closed by Rick Pollock at 20:31.
- Resolution 2022-32 Approval of the 2022 Amended Budget - Motion to approve 2022 Amended Budget by Ken Aldridge. 2nd Steve Manzione. All approved.
- Resolution 2022-33 Approval of the 2023 tax rate and budget increase - Motion to approve 2022 the 2023 tax rate and budget increase by Scott Bissegger. 2nd Steve Manzione. All approved.
- Resolution 2022-34 Approval of the Application for Short- and Long-Term Disability Benefits - Motion to approve the Application for Short- and Long-Term Disability Benefits by Mark Herrera. 2nd Scott Bissegger. All approved.
- Resolution 2022-35 Approval of the 2023 Final Budget including updating of the capital projects list and the payroll administration step system. - Motion to approve the 2023 Final Budget including updating of the capital projects list and the payroll administration step system by Ken Aldridge. 2nd Steve Manzione. All approved.
- Resolution 2022-36 Approval of Consent Agenda #7 - Motion to approve Approval of Consent Agenda #7 by Ken Aldridge. 2nd Scott Bissegger. All approved.

Item 14 – Board Calendar

- January 11, 2023, Board Meeting, Stansbury Fire Station
- February 15, 2023, Board Meeting, Stansbury Fire Station
- March 15, 2023, Board Meeting, Stansbury Fire Station

Item 15 – District Events

- December 13, 2022 NTFD Christmas Party
- Winter Fire School Jan 20-21, 2023, St George, UT
- Polar Plunge Jan 1, 2023

Item 16 – Public Concerns

- Joyce Jacobson asked why the Board voted without consideration of what was said tonight.
-The Board responded that they did consider it but there no good time to raise taxes and who knows when the recession is going to end. The hirings have already been put off for years.

Item 17 – Closed session - None.

Item 18- Adjourn Board Meeting - Motion to adjourn by Ken Aldridge. 2nd Steve Manzione. All approved

Adjourned: 20:42.