

MINUTES OF THE WAUKEGAN-WARREN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
GURNEE FIRE STATION #2
Wednesday, July 20, 2005

President John Badtke called the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Warren-Waukegan Fire Protection District to order at 7:30 p.m.

Trustees Present: John Badtke, Phillip DeRuntz, Marty Klauber

Other Officials Present: Linda E. Spring, Attorney

Others Present: Angela Moreno, Recording Secretary
Fred Friedl, Chief, Gurnee Fire Department
John Kavanagh, Gurnee Firefighters
Al Oller, Grandwood Park Resident

***THESE MINUTES ARE NOT A VERBATIM ACCOUNT, EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE NOTED.**

Approval of minutes:

Trustee Klauber made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2005 regular meeting. Trustee DeRuntz seconded the motion.

AYES: Badtke, DeRuntz, Klauber NAYS: None Motion carried.

Trustee Klauber made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2005 special call meeting. Trustee DeRuntz seconded the motion.

AYES: Badtke, DeRuntz, Klauber NAYS: None Motion carried.

REPORTS

President's Report: President Badtke showed the Trustees a video of his public comment during the July 18, 2005 Village of Gurnee Board Meeting. His comments were the following (verbatim): "I am John Badtke from the Warren Waukegan Fire Protection District. On July 15th the Village and Fire District representatives met to review a proposed new contract. I believe both sides agreed on a price of \$2.125 million for the first year of the new contract. However, the discussions could not agree on an escalation clause for a multiple year contract. Therefore, we had no agreement.

When we proposed a new contract on March 3rd, we asked that the new contract be signed for one year, as we have done for the past 70 years. The Village asked if we would consider a multi-year contract with an automatic increase each year. We agreed to consider it, but asked that the new contract be signed for one year to give us time to review an automatic escalation clause for a multiple year contract.

We currently have no contract between us. If we do not sign a new contract and establish a new relationship with the Village, the Village will lose 30% of the money they currently use to provide fire and ambulance service to the residents of Gurnee.

We have scheduled another review meeting for July 22nd. I am asking the Trustees of Gurnee to review the information that Karen Wasser and the others collected at the meeting on July 15th. When you do, I would like you to consider recommending agreement to a one-year contract that will ensure coverage to all of our residents immediately. This will also establish a new relationship with the WWFPD that we hope will last another 70 years. This will give us one year to see how the new contract works and allow us time to review a multiple year contract with an automatic escalation.

Lastly I would appreciate being added to your next meeting agenda to allow open discussions about the new contract for the Village Trustees. Thank you.”

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer DeRuntz supplied the Board and the public with copies of his report dated July 20, 2005. The account with Illinois Funds reflected deposits in the amount of \$1,295.81 for interest income; \$1,181,513.32 in property tax income; \$33,896.82 from Superior Collection and \$0.00 from PPRT. In addition, \$800,000 was transferred to the Northside Community Bank account. The account at Northside Community Bank reflected deposits in the amount of \$662.32 in interest income, and a transfer of \$800,000 from the Illinois Funds Account. Total expenditures were \$521,507.14 in approved payments, giving an ending balance of \$308,193.68.

Trustee DeRuntz listed proposed expenditures in the amount of \$547,613.11, which included the following: an invoice from the Village of Gurnee (#5315) in the amount of \$546,762.75; an invoice from Phillip DeRuntz for auditing expenses in the amount of \$71.26; an invoice from Swanson, Martin & Bell in the amount of \$479.10; payment to Marsha Baker for the June 15th meeting in the amount of \$150.00; and payment to Angela Moreno for the July 7th meeting in the amount of \$150.00.

Trustee Klauber inquired about the bank charge listed in the amount of \$136.78, and Trustee DeRuntz explained to him that this was a mistake made by Northside Community Bank and that it will be reversed.

Trustee DeRuntz made a motion to pay the proposed expenditures. Trustee Klauber seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Badtke, DeRuntz, Klauber NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Trustee DeRuntz reported that he is working on the audit with Eder & Casella and will make a presentation at the September meeting.

Secretary’s Report: None.

Fire Chief’s Report: None.

Attorney's Report: None.

Old Business

Adopt budget and appropriation ordinance: Trustee Klauber made a motion to adopt the budget and appropriation ordinance. Trustee Klauber seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

AYES: Badtke, DeRuntz, Klauber NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Review contract with Village of Gurnee: President Badtke reported that he met with the representative from the Village of Gurnee on July 15th, and the two parties were unable to come to an agreement. He stated that the Village is currently pushing for a 3 year contract with an escalation clause of no less than 5.4%. President Badtke noted that in addition to these requirements, they are standing firm on the Right of First Refusal Clause. He further expressed that this is unacceptable to the District.

The Trustees thoroughly explored alternative proposals and solutions. After much discussion, the Trustees examined the possibility of offering a \$2.1 million starting price, with a two-year contract and a 3.5% escalation clause. Trustee Klauber stated for the record that he believes the proposal should start at \$2.125 for three years with a 3.5% escalation clause, because he does not believe the Village will agree to the previously discussed proposal. President Badtke and Trustee DeRuntz disagreed and both stated that this was a reasonable proposal. President Badtke reminded the Board that they did extend the offer to the Village that if, during the term of the contract, they come into some additional expense, they have the ability to come to the District to request financial assistance.

President Badtke made a motion to offer the Village of Gurnee a \$2.1 million contract for two years with a 3.5% escalation clause. Trustee DeRuntz seconded the motion.

AYES: Badtke, DeRuntz, Klauber NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Long range financial planning: Covered under the contract review.

Review list of meta words for the website: Tabled.

*Note: Trustee Klauber left after this item, at 8:20 p.m.

Updated 911 procedures/article for newsletter: Tabled.

Status of newsletter to residents including production and content: Tabled.

Superior Ambulance's billing, current collections, and write-offs: President Badtke requested copies of reports from Superior from Trustee DeRuntz, who will supply them.

Revised billing complaint policy: Tabled.

Building code sprinkler ordinance: A copy of the Village of Gurnee's ordinance and building codes were provided to the Trustees. She recommended adopting the same code as the Village in order to be consistent, and she will draft this for the District.

Fire Protection District Property being taxed to Grayslake: Tabled.

Impact fee ordinance: The Trustees decided not to pursue this ordinance, and will remove it from next month's agenda.

New Business

Ambulance Billing Complaints: None.

Annexations: The District received three notices of annexation. Ms. Spring explained a statute that says that if a taxing body annexes property from the District and the District objects, then the taxing body must pay the District a decreasing amount of money every year of the taxes that the District was receiving, for five years. Ms. Spring drafted a letter to the Village regarding this matter. President Badtke stated that he would like to review past annexations to determine when this statute would apply.

911 Procedures: Tabled.

Review closed session minutes: None.

Impact Fee Ordinance: Tabled.

Public Comment: Al Oller spoke on behalf of the Grandwood Park Park District and thanked Chief Friedl and the Gurnee Fire Department for their assistance with their fireworks display on July 16th. President Badtke requested that Ms. Moreno draft a letter to the Village thanking them for their outstanding service to the District.

Mr. Oller asked Chief Friedl if there are currently any plans for the District to participate in the CERT Program. Chief Friedl stated that Captain Hubbard ran this program as a pilot program, and the Department is looking at the possibility of expanding this program. Mr. Oller stated that he is very interested in participating in this program if it becomes available to the public.

Mr. Oller asked the Trustees what their position would be with respect to the contract negotiations regarding their outstanding debt with the Village. President Badtke stated that at this time the District intends to pay the debt in full.

Closed Session: None.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Warren-Waukegan Fire Protection District will be August 17, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Spring reviewed the agenda items with the Trustees.

Adjournment:

Having no further business to come before the Board, Trustee DeRuntz made a motion to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Trustee Badtke seconded the motion.

AYES: Badtke, DeRuntz

NAYS: None.

Motion carried.

Secretary of WWFPD

Date Minutes approved.

