

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2020 REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KING COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT
NO. 2**

A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire District No. 2 was held remotely on November 17, 2020, commencing at 5:00 p.m., pursuant to proper notice. District officials in attendance, pursuant to virtual meeting software Go To Meeting were: Commissioners Elwell, Sitterley, and Peden. Also attending virtually were: Chief Mike Marrs, Assistant Chief Ray Pettigrew, and District Secretary Joseph Quinn. Others in attendance will be shown on the Attendance Roster.

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Commissioner Elwell who led the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag.

Agenda Approval. It was moved, seconded and carried 3-0 to approve the agenda as submitted immediately prior to the meeting.

Executive Session. At 5:05 p.m. the Board adjourned into an executive discussion, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss litigation in which the District is involved with their attorney of record, Dave Luxenberg. At 5:35 the Board reconvened in open session.

Presentations/Announcements. (1) Presentations: The Apparatus Replacement Committee then made a presentation on the proposed schedules for replacement or purchase of aid cars, engines and a ladder truck. The fleet is aging. Roger Anderson and Joe Kupferling made presentations on parts of the proposal. It was mentioned that North Highline Fire is going to buy one aid car. It was estimated by the committee that the cost of an aid car is about \$250,000, for an engine about \$850,000, and for a ladder about \$1.3 million. The money for the ladder truck can come from the Construction Bond Fund, which has almost that much money in it, to close out that fund. The Board members asked several questions, but no action was taken at this time on the presentation or recommendations.

(2) Announcements: November 5th to December 10th – Accepting monetary donations for Holiday Outreach and December 22nd—Tentative delivery date for Holiday Outreach. Two car dealers pledged \$750 each.

Public Hearing. The Board then commenced the public hearing on the budget, tax levies, the sources of revenue and any tax increases anticipated for 2021. Chair Elwell reviewed the ground rules for the public hearing. He then reviewed the revenue sources as follows:

He stated that the 2021 levy calculation is based on an allowable levy of \$1.37511 per thousand of assessed valuation (AV). The AV for 2021 is approximately

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\$9,984,124,921.00 based on the Preliminary Levy Limit Worksheet dated 11/10/2020, and provided by King County. Based on that AV and using the applicable limit factor, the maximum statutory levy is \$13,735,066.00. This represents a dollar increase (from last year) of \$755,831.00, which is a percentage increase of 5.86%. We have added \$20,000 to the request because the numbers from King County are preliminary estimates and may well change before the actual levy occurs later this year. The 2021 G.O. Bond levy is in the amount of \$1,806,714.00, which is to be used to be used for the sole purpose of paying interest on and principal of the district's outstanding General Obligation Bonds.

The Chair then called for public testimony at least three times, but there was no member of the public that offered public testimony, so the Chair then closed the public hearing. At that point, the open public meeting resumed.

Correspondence. None.

Public Comment. None.

Local 1461 Comment. None.

Administration Reports. Chief Marrs delivered the Chief's Report as follows:

Facilities. N/A.

Equipment. Chief Marrs noted that we have already discussed the apparatus replacement program.

Personnel. Chief Marrs updated the board on the entry level firefighter positions. Job posting closed on October 31. We have received 429 applications through the National Testing web site. The top 31 candidates were notified on November 4th, and interviews were held November 9-11. Chief's interviews started on November 17th and will continue on November 18 and 19 for the top 20. We will have the recommendations for new hires at our meeting in December.

Chief Marrs discussed staffing briefly. The North Highline Board budgeted \$657,000 for aid car staffing for 2021. Their benefit charge was renewed for ten years. District 2 will need to re-negotiate the percentage share with North Highline now so that it is fair to both sides. With a new aid car in service, the staffing and level of service will change. Entry level wages for three personnel will have to be factored into the calculations. Talks with the union local will be needed. The staffing change will also impact our district in a positive way, at least in dealing with multiple simultaneous calls. At the December meeting, we will be recommending the hiring of six personnel, three for the North Highline aid car and three for other assignments at District 2, to "upstaff" and to deal with retirements, needs relative to a CARES program, and the like.

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Chief Marris gave an update on the two recruits at the Academy. The six new recruits will start the February 1 academy, with the next academy starting around September 1, according to Chief Pettigrew. Some new hires should be phased in gradually in 2021, to spread out the training and orientation program, and so that there are not too many new firefighters at any one time.

Chief Marris said the next contract negotiations will take place next week.

Chief Marris discussed vacation leave sellback for Trina and for himself. They are requesting to sell back 120 additional hours of vacation leave and there is a motion under New Business.

Chief Marris mentioned that renewal of the Quinn & Quinn contract for legal services is on the agenda under New Business. Mr. Quinn said there is little change, but the monthly amount is proposed to be reduced from \$1500 to \$1300.

Events. Chief Marris noted that there are motions under New Business related to the tax levy and budget, based on the public hearing held tonight.

Chief Marris said the December 15th meeting would be a bit too early for voucher preparation and suggested December 22nd instead. The Board agreed to do that, as a special meeting.

Chief Marris gave a brief Covid-19 update. We are seeing the predicting "second wave" of infections. Chief Marris said there is great hope for a vaccine. He said doctors are informing him that ventilators are no longer the definitive standard of care. He mentioned an ECMO (extracorporeal membrane oxygenation) machine, which removes and re-oxygenates the blood and then returns that blood to the patient, a bit like dialysis. Due to a shortage of these machines in King County, however, they are sending patients to Portland. The Chief discussed ARDS, acute respiratory distress syndrome, where fluids accumulate outside the lungs. Ventilators can actually aggravate ARDS.

Consent Agenda. The Consent Agenda, all of which was approved 3-0, upon a motion made by Commissioner Sitterley and seconded by Commissioner Peden, consisted of the Chief's Report, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 3, the Declaration of Surplus for obsolete and/or damaged equipment not serviceable for current operations, including items from Station 18 (see list attached) and the vouchers for November 2020, as follows: Expense Fund: No. E20-900 through No. E20-981 in the amount of \$1,164,995.03 due for payment November 30, 2020.

Unfinished Business. None.

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New Business. 1. Motion: Resolution 2020-06 Adopting a Budget for 2021.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to approve and sign Resolution 2020-06, Adopting a budget for 2021, based on preliminary levy figures received from King County as of November 10, 2020. Motion carried, 3-0.

2. Motion: Resolution 2020-07 Regarding the Real Property Tax.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to approve and sign Resolution 2020-07, regarding the real property tax based on assessed valuation of real properties. Motion carried, 3-0.

3. Motion: 2021 Property Tax Levy Request and Certification.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to approve and authorize Commissioner Elwell to sign the Levy Request Certificate for 2021. Motion carried, 3-0.

4. Motion: 2021 Contract for Legal Services.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to approve and authorize Chief Marrs to sign the 2021 Professional Services Contract for Legal Services with Quinn & Quinn, P.S., Attorneys. The contract stipulates a monthly contract fixed fee of \$1300. Unused dollars, if any, will carry over to the next month, and to succeeding months if still unused, in accordance with the contract. Motion carried, 3-0.

5. Motion: Vacation Accrual Sellback.

Commissioner Sitterley moved, and Commissioner Peden seconded, a motion to approve and authorize Chief Marrs and Trina Norsen to each sell back an additional 120 hours of accrued vacation in December 2020. The additional vacation sellback is requested due to the limited ability to utilize vacation time during 2020. Motion carried, 3-0.

Good of the Order. None.

Adjournment. It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3-0. At 6:27 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Attachments. Attached to these Minutes are copies of:

1. the Meeting Notice
2. the Meeting Agenda
3. the Attendance Roster
4. Resolution 2020-06
5. Resolution 2020-07

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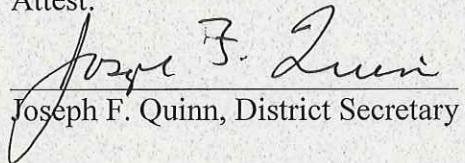
6. Bond Payment Schedule

Minutes Approved: Dec 1, 2020.

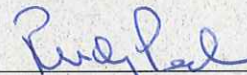


Chris Elwell
Chairman

Attest:


Joseph F. Quinn, District Secretary

Ted Sitterley
Commissioner



Rudy Pedeh
Commissioner

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