

WALPOLE FIRE DISTRICT MEETING
April 9, 2024

Cmr. Vose opened the meeting at 7:04 pm

Present: Commissioners: Ernie Vose, Tom Sawyer, David Adams; Chief, Mark Houghton, Dick Hurlburt, Mike Flynn, Jennie Meister

Absent:

Minutes: Prior commissioner meeting minutes approved, motion made by Cmr Sawyer, 2nd by Cmr Vose to approve minutes.

Elect Commission Chair: Tom Sawyer nominated Ernie Vose to be chair for the next year, David Adams 2nd. All in favor. Congrats Ernie!

Appoint the Chief: Tom Sawyer nominated Mark Houghton to be the Fire Chief for the next year, 2nd by Ernie Vose. All in favor. Congrats Mark!

Treasurer's Report: Financials were presented for expenses through March. Treasurer's report approved, motion made by Cmr Sawyer, 2nd by Cmr Vose.

Report of the Chief: 1) Chief reports we have cancelled our services with Verizon, should be receiving a final billing with next billing cycle. 2) Chief reports ongoing discussions with Steve Horton regarding anticipated construction project start. 3) Chief reports we have officially received award of FEMA grant. Payment will occur when we submit for money on quarterly basis, in arrears of Walpole Fire paying for project. The second grant(not awarded yet) funding will work in same way. Due to this timing of getting money, Chief is requesting to go to Savings Bank of Walpole and get started on securing short term lending solution. Cmr. Sawyer made a motion to have Chief pursue short term lending options with Savings Bank of Walpole, Cmr. Vose 2nd, all in favor, motion approved. 4) Chief reports we are inquiring as to whether to go forward with bond now or wait until fall for bond issuance, will update everyone at next meeting. Chief requested for commissioner to approve to move forward. Cmr. Vose made a motion to authorize Chief to pursue bond for Fire District construction project, Cmr. Adams 2nd. All in favor, motion approved. 5) Chief reports we have a long lead time for 2 way radio communications system for Emergency Operations Center(EOC), we need to move forward on this now so it can be in place when needed. Cmr. Adams made a motion to authorize Chief to start the process, sign contract, to move forward with 2 way radio communications system. Cmr. Sawyer 2nd, all approved, motion approved. 6) Chief reports that we should get the money in the building renovation capital reserve fund requested from town, in anticipation of funds needing to be used over next couple of months. Motion made by Cmr. Vose to move forward with requesting funds from Trustee of Trust Funds for the building renovation capital reserve fund. Cmr. Sawyer, 2nd, all in favor, motion approved. 7) Chief reports we need to move forward with a Request For Proposal(RFP) to get the project moving forward with getting a Construction Manager in place for project. Cmr. Sawyer made a motion to authorize Chief to move forward with RFP, 2nd by Cmr. Adams, all in favor, motion approved. 8) Chief reports we

need to proceed with Michael Petrovick to finish the bid documents. Cmr. Sawyer made a motion to authorize Chief to move forward with Petrovick to finish bid documents, Cmr. Adams 2nd, all in favor, motion approved. Motion made by Cmr. Adams to approve report of the chief, 2nd by Cmr. Sawyer, all approved.

Old Business:

New Business: Treasurer Meister reports that raises have been given to all classes of volunteer Fire Department with the March payroll.

Non certified personnel 15.50/hr

EMR personnel 16.75/hr

Firefighter personnel 18.25/hr

EMT-B personnel 18.25/hr

EMT-A personnel 19.25/hr

Officers 19.25/hr

Next meeting, Wednesday, May 8th, 2024.

There was a motion to adjourn by Cmr Sawyer 2nd by Cmr Vose

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM by Cmr Vose

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Flynn, Clerk

(Note: These are unapproved minutes, any corrections will be found in the June 5th, 2024, Commissioners meeting minutes).