

NEW LENOX FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MARCH 23, 2018

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEW LENOX FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, COUNTY OF WILL, HELD AT FIRE STATION #1, 261 E. MAPLE STREET, NEW LENOX, ILLINOIS, IN SAID DISTRICT AT 12:30 P.M. ON FRIDAY THE 23RD DAY OF MARCH 2018.

Trustees Roll Call:

Trustee Minger	P
Trustee Sauter	P
Trustee Levey	P
Trustee DiFiori	A
Trustee McCollum	P

Others Present:

Chief Adam Riegel, Marisa Schrieber, Linda Baaske, Laura Ward, James Brown, Attorney Tom Gilbert, Battalion Chief Chris Ward, Battalion Chief Josh Swanson, Lt. Jeff Petschinsky, Mr. Marty Terlep, Mr. James Pitcairn, FF/PM Tim Mayotte, FF/PM Matthew Lang, FF/PM Eric Windmoller, FF/PM Zac Cook, FF/PM Brandon Toth, FF/PM Joe Ward, FF/PM Thomas Comise, Lt. Dan Vanek, Mr. Brad Veerman, FF/PM Melissa Bresnahan, FF/PM Matthew Duda, FF/PM Mitch Serrato, FF/PM Craig Cousins.

The Monday meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FINANCIAL PRESENTATION

James Howard from Gov. Accounting advised that at the last board meeting a \$750,000.00 tax anticipation warrant was approved. For the past three (3) years the fire district has been in a deficit and will operate in a deficit this year. We are the 4th lowest tax rate with the 6th highest EAV.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Minger stated we tried a referendum in 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2018 all failed. This is not a threat but facts. This is a very difficult decision.

- A. Personnel
Eliminate four (4) spots a day.
- B. Cost Cutting
Cut Pub Ed events we will no longer take a vehicle out of service.
- C. Potential Closures
We will close a station

By not filling an open position in the Administration Office, cutting special teams, recent changes to our health insurance coverage, cutting 6 contract positions, cutting the part time program and closing a station we can potentially save \$659,000.00

Recommendation by Chief Riegel is to close Station #2 to keep the best coverage of our response area.

A motion was made by Trustee Levey seconded by Trustee Sauter to approve the closure of Station #2.

Discussion by Trustee McCollum. Should we wait three (3) weeks until our next board meeting to make this decision so we would have time to have a meeting with the Referendum Committee?

Trustee Sauter – Waiting is only going to create a bigger deficit.

Trustee Levey – Waiting 30 days will only cause us to go deeper into debt. Nothing will change. Our responsibility is to protect the district.

Trustee Minger – The Referendum committee is not sitting here or voting on this. The people sitting in this room are waiting for answers. We will schedule a meeting with the referendum committee to discuss our plan for the next election.

ROLL CALL:

Trustee DiFiori - Absent

Trustee Levey – Yea

Trustee Sauter– Yea

Trustee Minger- Yea

Trustee McCollum - Yea

Motion carried by four (4) Ayes

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Levey - I never thought I would see this day. I am disappointed, but so proud. We need to focus on still doing our best and move forward and continue our hard work. The board couldn't be prouder of the union and all the work they do every day. Just remember what we are up against.

Trustee Sauter – I echo Trustee Levey's comments. We're not going to quit, but try in November to get the referendum passed so we can reopen station #2 and try to open another one.

Trustee McCollum – I expected it would pass and feel we have a great chance to do it in November.

Trustee Minger – Thanked everyone for everything they have done, but the voters said no. Station #2 will be closed temporarily hopefully. Thank you so much.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Trustee Levey seconded by Trustee Sauter to enter closed session at 12:52 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Trustee Levey - Yea

Trustee Sauter - Yea

Trustee Minger – Yea

Trustee McCollum - Yea

Trustee DiFiori - Absent

Motion carried and board went into closed session at 12:52 pm.

OPEN SESSION

The Board of Trustees returned to open session at 1:33 pm with the following action taken.

A motion was made by Trustee Levey seconded by Trustee Minger to authorize the Chief's to negotiate with the lawyer concerning effectuating the closure of Station #2.

Motion carried by four (4) Ayes.

A motion was made by Trustee McCollum seconded by Trustee Minger to conduct exit meeting with referendum committee to analyze results and plan for the future.

Motion carried by four (4) Ayes.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Minger seconded by Trustee McCollum to adjourn at 1:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Trustee Levey – Yes

Trustee Sauter – Yea

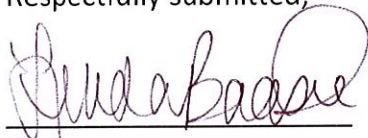
Trustee Minger - Yea

Trustee McCollum – Yea

Trustee DiFiori - Absent

Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Linda Baaske", written over a horizontal line.

Linda Baaske

Recording Secretary