



Carol Stream Fire Protection District Board of Trustees

**William Natick, President
Richard Fisher, Secretary
Karl Langhammer, Treasurer
James Panopoulos, Trustee
Brian Jordan, Trustee**

CAROL STREAM FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES June 12, 2023

President William Natick called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call was taken. Present: Trustee Brian Jordan, Trustee James Panopoulos, Trustee Karl Langhammer, Trustee Richard Fisher, and President William Natick, Chief Robert Schultz, Deputy Chief Tom Nash, Deputy Chief Jason Day, Battalion Chief Jeff Blaksley, James Howard and Attorney Joe Miller.

Citizen Lifesaving Award

Chief Schultz presented Kevin Greshock with a citizen lifesaving award from the district.

President Natick called a brief recess at 7:12 p.m.

President Natick called the meeting back to order at 7:27 p.m.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Langhammer motioned to approve the open meeting minutes from May 8, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Fisher, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Approval of Travel Expenses

N/A

Approval of Payment of Bills

Trustee Langhammer motioned to approve the payment of bills from May 16-31, 2023 in the amount of \$532,743.23. Seconded by Trustee Fisher, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Trustee Fisher motioned to approve the payment of bills from June 12, 2023 in the amount of \$363,381.91. Seconded by Trustee Langhammer, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Reports

James Howard presented the Board with the treasurer's report for month ending April 2023. Trustee Langhammer motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month ending April 2023. Seconded by Trustee Panopoulos, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Decennial Committee

Chief Schultz called the first Decennial Committee meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

President Natick called the board meeting back to order at 8:10 p.m.

Old Business

N/A

New Business

2023 Insurance Renewal

The districts health insurance renewal is due on August 1, 2023. The team at OneDigital presented three options for 2023 renewal rates. The first option would be our current plan with United Healthcare with a 27% increase from last year. The second option would be a different plan with United Healthcare with an increase of 13%, but a higher deductible which would potentially increase the HRA costs for the district. The third option was from BlueCross BlueShield with an 80% increase over our current plan. Chief Schultz is recommending moving forward with the first option, renewing with our current plan.

Trustee Jordan motion to approve the 2023 insurance renewal with United Healthcare with a 27% renewal rate. Seconded by Trustee Fisher, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Removal of Retirees who are Medicare eligible from all insurance plans

Chief Schultz would like to consider removing the retirees who are Medicare eligible. Pursuant to Illinois law, a retired firefighter is eligible to continue their insurance through their former employer by paying 100% of the premium, there is no requirement to continue this offer once a retiree reached the age of 65.

Attorney Miller noted that this is correct, and we are allowed to do this, just make sure the district is notifying the retirees of this with an effective date.

Trustee Fisher motion to authorize the removal of retirees from the districts insurance plan once the retiree is 65 and Medicare eligible. Seconded by Trustee Langhammer, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Requiring retirees to have insurance premium deducted from/paid from their pension

Chief Schultz would like the board to consider requiring all retirees to have their insurance premiums paid directly from their pensions instead of having them mail personal checks into the district. This would be electronically deducted from their pension each month. There are still a handful of retirees who mail checks in, verses having the insurance paid directly from their pensions.

Attorney Miller noted that the district or Pension Board can not mandate that the insurance be paid through their pension, but can request or encourage them to pay with their pension. If someone was to still send a check, the district would have to take it. He noted though, that is

someone gets behind on their payments it is within the districts right to drop them from the district's insurance coverage.

The Board gives Chief Schultz direction to encourage all retirees to utilize the insurance payments being deducted through their pension each month.

Approval to promote (1) firefighter/paramedic to lieutenant and hire (1) firefighter/paramedic

Lieutenant Jones has submitted paperwork to retire on June 13,2023. With his retirement, Chief Schultz would like promote (1) firefighter/paramedic to lieutenant and hire (1) firefighter/paramedic off the current eligibility list. Kevin Gay is next on the lieutenant promotion list.

Trustee Panopoulos motioned to approve the promotion of (1) firefighter/paramedic to lieutenant and hire (1) firefighter/paramedic. Seconded by Trustee Jordan, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Approval to purchase ambulance(s)

Chief Schultz is seeking approval to purchase (2) new ambulances. Currently, M27 is due for replacement in budget year 24-25 and M28 is due the following budget year. Right now, there is a 18-24 month wait on delivery of new ambulances. He would like to stay ahead of any delays that might happen and purchase the ambulances now, this will hopefully keep the ambulances on track to get them when they are budgeted for. The quote from Alexis is \$394,240 for each ambulance and reflects a discount of \$9,200.00 if (2) ambulances are purchased together. There is an additional discount of \$35,480.00 if the district pre-pays for the ambulances.

Trustee Panopoulos noted that he is ok with moving forward with the purchase with both ambulances, but does not think that it is in the best interest to pre-pay for the ambulances. Trustee Jordan agreed.

Trustee Panopoulos motioned to approve the purchase of (2) ambulances with Alexis in the amount of \$779,280.00. with no pre-pay. Seconded by Trustee Fisher, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Approval to purchase Stryker power load system and stretcher

Pending the approval of the new ambulances, Chief Schultz is requesting that the direct purchase (2) power load systems and stretchers for the ambulances. Stryker is a sole source vendor and is what the district currently uses in the ambulances. The price reflects a 7-year full warranty which includes annual maintenance, parts, labor and travel expenses. He would like to order now so there are no additional price increases – which is what we did the last time we ordered a new ambulance.

The Board wondered if the warranty started when these were purchased or when they were placed in service. Chief Schultz noted that he believes the warranty starts once they are put placed in service in the ambulances but will double check.

Trustee Jordan motioned to approve the purchase of (2) Stryker power load system & power-pro 2 stretchers in the amount of \$148,288.16 pending confirmation on warranty start date. Seconded by Trustee Fisher, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Reports of Trustees, Chiefs, and Attorneys

Chief Schultz informed the Board that the new tower ladder was delivered to Indiana from Florida -there was no issues on the way up. They will now install the radios, computers and take care of the lettering.

Chief Schultz noted that we should know Wednesday if the existing U27 is sold, the department that is interested in purchasing it is waiting on approval. The new U27 is here.

Chief Schultz informed the Board that the new engine is here and the committee is meeting on Wednesday to go over any possible changes. It will then be sent to Alexis and we should have it back ready in December.

Attorney Miller noted that the first efficiency committee went great, great job Rob. Trustee Panopoulos & President Natick agreed.

Public Comments

Village of Carol Stream Trustee Mary Frusolone, wanted to invite the district to the next village board meeting because they will also have a presentation for Kevin Greshock. Mary explained that she is proud of how the village has really come together for all three of the recent house fires in the village and commends the fire district for everything they do.

There being no further reports or business to conduct at 9:09 p.m. Trustee Jordan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Trustee Langhammer, five ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried.

Note: The next regular Carol Stream Fire Protection District Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, July 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at Richard Kammes Fire Protection District Station 28, located on Kuhn Road in Carol Stream.


Richard Fisher, Board Secretary