

**Minutes of the November 29, 2018  
Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the  
West Chicago Fire Protection District  
Held at Fire Station One  
200 Fremont Street, West Chicago, Illinois**

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Opened meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

The Special Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Charles Bratcher with Trustee Anthony Gagliardi, Trustee Jim Grobe, and Trustee Steve Usedom in attendance. Trustee Pat Murphy was absent. Also present were Chief Pat Tanner; Assistant Chief Tim Leidig; Firefighters Jeff Buccola, Rick Ciszewski, Andy Maxwell, Mike Newman, and Greg Zudis; accountant James Howard; insurance agent Gary Kosnoff; and attorneys Joseph Miller and Ryan Morton.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 25, 2018 were reviewed. Trustee Usedom made a motion to accept the minutes as written, the motion was seconded by Trustee Grobe, and the motion passed by a unanimous vote.

**INSURANCE UPDATE:**

Gary Kosnoff provided the Board with an update on medical and life insurance rates for 2019. He reported that the renewal rate with Blue Cross Blue Shield had been negotiated down to a 1.64% increase over the current plan. Originally, the increase was going to be 4.78%. Kosnoff provided a chart comparing various insurance providers and recommended the Board stick with BCBS due to the combination of price and benefits. Kosnoff also reported that there was no increase in the life insurance rate, which is locked in until 2020. Dental and vision insurance are also locked in at a renewal cap of 3%.

Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve the insurance plans as presented, with the negotiated BCBS rate. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gagliardi. Roll call vote showed:

Trustee Gagliardi – Aye	Trustee Grobe – Aye
Trustee Bratcher – Aye	Trustee Usedom – Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

Accountant James Howard presented the financial report for the five months ending October 31, 2018. The report included a presentation of the District revenues and a review of the fiscal year budget figures.

### Revenue Highlights

- 91.0% of Total Budget
- Collected \$7,393,036 of Property Taxes (98% of budget)
- Collected \$226,960 of Ambulance Fees (51.6% of budget)
- Collected \$196,967 from Airport Authority (41.9% of budget)

### Expenditure Highlights

- Operating Expenditures at 43.3% of budget
- Salaries & Wages at 42.2% of budget
- Debt Service & Capital Expenditures (26.8% of Budget)  
Debt Principal & Interest Payment = \$160,175

Howard highlighted that both major installments of taxes for DuPage County have been paid, with property taxes currently 2% over last year. Interest income is well above budget as is the Kress Road facility income. On the expense side, there has been an uptick in overtime due to injury.

Trustee Bratcher announced that the account payables for the District for the period of October 26, 2018 through November 29, 2018 totaled \$354,897.53, with a large chunk coming from the pre-payment of the ambulance, which saved the District money. Trustee Bratcher also announced that the payroll for the District as of November 29, 2018 was \$429,990.77. Trustee Gagliardi made a motion to approve the total amount of expenditures for the District of \$784,888.30. The motion was seconded by Trustee Grobe. Roll call vote showed:

Trustee Gagliardi – Aye	Trustee Grobe – Aye
Trustee Bratcher – Aye	Trustee Usedom – Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. Intergovernmental:** No report.
- b. Finance and Planning:** No report.
- c. Divisional Reports:**
  - i. Administration:** No report.
  - ii. Emergency Medical Services:** Chief Tanner reported that they are still evaluating the CPR machines, because there have not been enough calls to use them on.

- iii. **Fire Prevention and Education:** Fire Marshal Joe Buenrosto prepared the Construction Up-Date 10/23/18 to 11/20/18 report. Hard copies included with minutes.
  - iv. **Fire Suppression and Training:** No report.
  - v. **Building/Equipment/Fleet/Capital Improvement:** No report.
- d. **Commissioners and Community Liaison:** Chief Tanner informed the Board of Trustees that the Fire Commissioners completed their interviews of 16 candidates, so candidates will be turning in points soon. He also asked the Board to give him recommendations privately of people who could fill an open seat on the Commission.

**UNION LOCAL 3870:** No report.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** James Howard gave a presentation to the Board on the 2018 tax levy. He informed them that the CPI plus new growth is 2.65%. "Truth in Taxation" action will not be needed because the levy will less than 5% increase. Howard also commented that the rate for tort liability was decreasing to avoid tax objections.

Trustee Usedom made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2018-O-05, levying and assessing taxes of the District for 2018. The motion was seconded by Trustee Gagliardi. Roll call vote showed:

Trustee Gagliardi – Aye	Trustee Grobe – Aye
Trustee Bratcher – Aye	Trustee Usedom – Aye

Motion passed 4 – 0.

Howard also presented the Board with the pension phase-in plan recommended by Lauterbach & Amen, the Pension Fund's new actuaries. They recalculated the Fund's finances and determined a large increase in contribution from the District is needed to achieve 100% funding by 2040. The increased contribution rate would be phased in over a period of five years. Attorney Miller pointed out that the Fund is currently the 11<sup>th</sup> best funded pension fund in the state, but the slightest alteration in an actuarial table can significantly change the projection. Chief Tanner told the Board that a decision on pension funding is not needed at this time. It is still being discussed, as Lauterbach & Amen used very conservative growth predictions.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** None.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** Firefighter Maxwell, who also serves as the president of the West Chicago Firefighters' Pension Fund, thanked the Board for taking care of them. He commented that he wants to maintain their good working relationship.

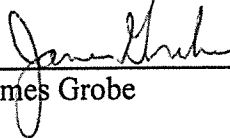
**ATTORNEY COMMENTS:** Attorney Miller informed the Board that after they sign the levy ordinance tonight, he will file it tomorrow, so it will be done well in advance of the deadline. He also informed the Board about the NIAFPD Conference scheduled in January. Chief Tanner placed the conference information in the trustees' mailboxes.

**CLOSED SESSION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Motion was made by Trustee Grobe and seconded by Trustee Gagliardi to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Charles Bratcher      President

  
James Grobe      Secretary