

FOREIGN FIRE INSURANCE TAX BOARD

Minutes of Meeting
1150 N. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

September 9, 2024

Board Members in Attendance:

Lance Harris
James Stempien
Scott Miller
Kevin Flynn
Robert Losik
Ross Chapman

Absent:

Marty Moran

Guests:

Catherine Miarnowski
Curt Hanselman
Brett Proctor
Alex Bellusci
David Roberts

Jim Stempien called the 3rd quarter 2024 meeting to order at 9:02am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of the May 15th, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Rob Losik made a motion to approve the minutes; it was seconded by Kevin Flynn; no objections; motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The current fund balance as of 08/31/2024 is \$426,703.31. Total amount paid out this year so far is \$119,739.00. Jim Stempien made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report to the record; it was seconded by Rob Losik; no objections; motion carried.

To accommodate guests, items of New Business were considered prior to opening Old Business for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

SCBA Training Prop – Brett Proctor presented a request to build a new SCBA training prop which would consist of two long hallways with doorway options and 10 ft x 8 ft room at the end. This set up would allow members to flow water into the hallways and rooms so they can practice hose movement and maneuvering flowing water. The cost to build this training prop is roughly \$2,500, which includes a waterproof zip board that could be reused after being saturated with water. Operations and Training Division has approved this proposal.

Chief Harris made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$3,000 for Brett Proctor to handle the SCBA training prop project. Jim Stempien made an amendment to use any left-over funds from this project to replenish supply for other props. Seconded by Ross Chapman.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None
Ayes: 6; Nays 0
Motion carried.

Fitness Initiative – Deputy Chief Hanselman presented a new fitness initiative program. This program is geared towards diminishing injuries that are commonly occurring and to improve our current fitness policies. The overall goal to have a long-term plan to change the entire fitness segment of the Department. 1st step is to bring in an outside trainer that would look at the injuries and the physical aspect of the job and have that person develop a personalized program that would strengthen specific areas and hopefully prevent injuries from happening. The training would be once a month for all 3 shifts, in which a fitness routine would be taught and those exercises would be practiced for the rest of the month, until the next session. IRMA has provided us with a grant to help kickstart the program. There is also additional \$3,000 from the fitness budget, bringing the current fitness budget amount to a little less than \$5,000. The cost for the program ranges from \$20,000-\$62,000. Illinois Bone and Joint is the preferred vendor with a program cost of \$28,000. A phone app is included in their price. Individualized attention would be provided at additional cost. Deputy Hanselman is asking for \$35,000 to supplement the cost of the program. He also thinks it would be beneficial to have a 3-month trial prior to committing to a one-year term.

Jim Stempien made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$35,000 to kick start the new Fitness Initiative to be overseen by Deputy Chief Hanselman with a preference of a 3-month trial. Seconded by Rob Losik.

Roll was called:
Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien
Nays: None
Ayes: 6; Nays 0
Motion carried

Nozzles – Deputy Hanselman on behalf of Battalion Chief Carpenter presented a request for the Department to switch over to a new line of smooth bore nozzles. He believes it would be beneficial due to the current issues with nozzle reactions and pumping pressure concerns. We currently have breakaway tip nozzles, however there is an issue with proper sizing making the nozzle reactions too powerful to handle. The Engineers are needing to adjust the pressure on the fog, due to the fog giving too much volume off water at high pressure. Deputy Hanselman believes that there is still a need for fog nozzles to be an option for different operations including EV fires and propane fires. He is on board with switching to smooth bore nozzles with the idea to keep two fog nozzles per vehicle. There are two quotes from Darley and Air 1 Equipment, with Darley providing a better price.

Ross Chapman made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$40,000 for a purchase of smooth bore nozzles per Battalion Chief Carpenter. Seconded by Rob Losik.

Roll was called:
Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien
Nays: None
Ayes: 6; Nays 0
Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Education Reimbursements – Jim Stempien on behalf of Ross Chapman presented a request for reimbursement for a “Mastering Fireground Command” class, which is not a preapproved institution class but was approved by the Training Division. The total cost for the class is \$349.

Jim Stempien made a motion to approve the cost of the class to be taken out of Ross Chapman's individual preapproved tuition budget. Seconded by Kevin Flynn.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None

Abstained: R. Chapman

Ayes: 5; Nays 0

Motion carried.

Jim Stempien on behalf of Adam Hoeflich presented a request for reimbursement for a “The Grab Lab” class which was also not on the preapproved institution list, but approved by the Training Division plus mileage. The total cost for the class is \$505.95.

Rob Losik made a motion to approve the cost of the class to be taken out of Adam Hoeflich's individual preapproved tuition budget. Seconded by Ross Chapman.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None

Ayes: 6; Nays 0

Motion carried.

House Fund Requests – no outstanding requests

Sun Shirts & Hats – Scott Miller wanted to give an update on the sun shirts and hats project. Majority of the shirts have been delivered minus 9 large shirts. The expected quality has not been met, as the shirts were personalized through heat transfer rather than screen printing and they don't look as good as anticipated. He recommends getting a sample first for future orders to confirm the quality of the product.

Fitness Equipment – Tabled until next meeting.

Mental Health Services – Funds for mental health services have been approved at the last meeting. Marty Moran is overseeing this project. He has hired a guest speaker already and the project is on track.

Admin Office Update – Jim Stempien wanted to provide an update regarding the Admin Office update project. Painting has started and cubicles have been taken apart. Nothing has been spent yet, as painting has been covered by the Village's budget. Project should be completed by the end of the calendar year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Winter Hats – Ross Chapman on behalf of Colin Ellison wanted to present a request for new winter hats. The Carhartt brand is the preferred option and with a design similar to the

current baseball hats. The design has been approved by Deputy Hanselman. Price is \$33/hat. The purchase would be for all the members plus 10-20 extras for future new hires. The lead time for this project is about 6 weeks.

Scott Miller made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$4,500 for a purchase of new winter hats for all members plus extras. Seconded by Rob Losik.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None

Ayes: 6; Nays 0

Motion carried.

Breast Cancer Awareness T-Shirts – Scott Miller on behalf of Matt Oates presented a request for a purchase of new breast cancer awareness t-shirts similar to the project that was organized and purchased last year. The t-shirts bring awareness and raise funds for an NCH foundation that provides mammograms to women who cannot afford them. This year he wants to purchase a different brand of t-shirts of better quality. The t-shirts will have the same logo and design and will be worn for the whole month of October. The cost of the short sleeve t-shirt is \$25 and long sleeve t-shirt is \$29, with a total cost of \$6,260.

Scott Miller made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$6,500 for Matt Oates for a purchase of Breast Cancer Awareness t-shirts. Seconded by Jim Stempien.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None

Ayes: 6; Nays 0

Motion carried.

Duty T-Shirts – Jim Stempien presented a request to restock duty shirts, as several members have requested replacement duty t-shirts and certain sizes were out of stock in the supply room. The cost of the t-shirts is \$11.50 per shirt if 500 or more are purchased. He would like to purchase a combination of white ones and blue ones.

Jim Stempien made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$7,500 to replenish duty shirts in the stock room. Seconded by Rob Losik.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None

Ayes: 6; Nays 0

Motion carried.

Item Replacement – Jim Stempien on behalf of Lt. Bill Casper presented a request to replace Lt. Casper's black duty gear bag, as his has been damaged.

Jim Stempien made a motion to approve a replacement for Bill Casper's black duty gear bag. Seconded by Kevin Flynn.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None

Ayes: 6; Nays 0
Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Jim Stempien wanted to give an update regarding continuous purchase item replacements: requested items have been ordered and should be arriving soon.

Fire Safety Trailer – Division Chief Roberts presented a request to update the Fire Safety Trailer. He wanted to make it more inviting by fixing it up, as it is pretty outdated. He has two proposals. One is to wrap the exterior in new graphics and logos. The other proposal is to update it on the inside by painting the cabinets in kitchen area, replacing the countertops, taking out the VHS player, putting a wall mounted TV, and painting all the trim. The cost of the exterior graphics and lettering is \$8,500. The cost of the interior remodel is \$5,000. Catherine wanted to make a point to make sure that these quotes include prevailing wage rates.

Rob Losik made a motion not to exceed \$20,000 to update the Fire Safety Trailer to be overseen by Division Chief Roberts. Seconded by Ross Chapman.

Roll was called:

Ayes S. Miller, R. Chapman, R. Losik, K. Flynn, L. Harris, J. Stempien

Nays: None

Ayes: 6; Nays 0

Motion carried.

Motion made by Jim Stempien to adjourn 3rd quarter meeting; seconded by Ross Chapman.
The meeting was adjourned at 10:36am.