

FAIRDALE FIRE DEPARTMENT

DATE: April 14, 2025, COMMITTEE: Board of Trustee

PLACE: Station 1

CHAIR: Ron Weston

TIME: 7:00 pm

RECORDER: Melanie Coomer

PRESENT: Scott Clark, Mindy Stoess, Josh McIntosh, Carrie Blevins, Josh Mouser, Rick Johnstone, Luke Rhode, Greg Longacre, Troy Newkirk, Chad Gardner

ABSENT:

| Topic/Agenda Item | Significant Findings/Discussion/Conclusion | Recommendation | Action/Follow-up |
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| CALL TO ORDER | Chairman Ron Weston called the Fairdale Fire Department Board of Trustees Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. | | |
| <i>GENERAL BUSINESS</i> | | | |
| APPROVAL OF MINUTES | A motion was made to accept the minutes from the March board meeting. | Mot.- Rick Johnstone 2nd.- Greg Longacre | Motion passed with no objections |
| FINANCIAL REPORT | Republic Bank General Checking \$114,989.86, General ICS account (3.20%) \$1,414,072.35, Payroll Account \$99,143.88, Reserve account \$1,429.92, Excess from operating ICS (reserve) (3.20%) (February Interest \$6,950.37) \$2,557,590.87, Peak Performance \$1.00, Current year tax ICS (3.20%) (February Interest \$9,034.78) \$3,642,766.97, Total monies \$7,642,766.97. A motion was made to accept the financial report. | Mot.- Troy Newkirk 2nd.- Mindy Stoess | Motion passed with no objections |
| INVOICES TO BE PAID | Luke presented the Invoices to be Paid for approval in the amount of \$171,724.77. | Mot. - Scott Clark 2nd – Troy Newkirk | Motion passed with no objections |
| <i>OLD BUSINESS</i> | | | |
| STATION 2 BATHROOM REMODEL (Update) | The plumber was in today to finish his work. | Informational | Informational |
| | A motion was made to go into Executive Session to discuss Attorney/Client matters. Discussed safe haven baby box contract, the board requested additional information before taking a vote – there was no vote. Personnel matter – Ethan Joly has submitted his resignation. Other issues Council advised needed to be discussed openly. | Mot.: Scott Clark 2nd.: Luke Rhode | Motion passed with no objection |
| SAFE HAVEN BABY BOX | | Informational | Informational |

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| <p>SICK TIME BUYBACK POLICY</p> | <p>Council revisited the write-up the Chief passed around to go through how Command can get out of the sick time buy-back. Currently, 3 of the top command are over 600 hours and need to get back down to 240.</p> <p>If it is lumped all together to buy back all the sick time, all would be at 240 hours. This is just for the salary side. This would have to be added to the current policy. Right now, the policy says we will buy back the 100-hour cap or change that part and just put the person back to 240, and will pay that person back for the other hours they have earned, and you should know if you are able to do that by May. It would only apply to the command staff.</p> <p>The new proposal and numbers were just presented this morning to the chief which was put together to present to the board. If the policy and wording is approved it would be presented to the board for approval at the May Board Meeting.</p> <p>Numbers were provided based on pay raises over the next few years. Payouts are based on 2% raises each year.</p> <p>The policy needs to address the change from hourly to salary when an employee is promoted because a salaried employee's pay is based on an hourly rate.</p> <p>The Chairman questioned the accident/sickness policy that the department pays for. does the sickness portion pay for short-term disability? McIntosh will look into the parameters of the policy.</p> <p>This was brought up because of how the current policy was written. Once a person reaches 240 hours, they quit accruing hours. In essence they are losing time and money.</p> <p>If a person doesn't call in for 6 months they are eligible to transfer sick time to vacation time.</p> <p>Do we want to have one option or two options? What is the rate at which it gets paid back? The possibility of not accruing after reaching a certain number of hours.</p> <p>A motion was made to table the policy changes until the May meeting to get the policy set</p> | <p>Mot.: Rick Johnstone 2nd: Luke Rhode</p> | <p>Motion passed with no objection</p> |
| <p>2025/2026 BUDGET</p> | <p>The first page is all the revenue that is going to come in.</p> <p>One change was made at the Finance committee. The buy-back policy is in the budget if approved.</p> | <p>Mot.: Rick Johnstone 2nd: Troy Newkirk</p> | |

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| | <p>We are down to 2 volunteer firefighters. Their reimbursement has been lowered down because they have not been meeting their max hours.</p> <p>Health insurance has gone up a small amount. We are getting quotes from other companies. It is at the max of what we projected what it would be.</p> <p>We pay for the lawn to be sprayed and it has already been paid for next year. It comes out of operations now.</p> <p>EMS loan is coming out of Reserve. In Capital Expenditures, there is some money put back for building improvements for Station 2, and \$290,000 for the new engine or Quint, whatever we decide to purchase, and \$90,000 for a Tahoe light package.</p> <p>Personnel is 69.8% of the budget</p> | | |
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| <i>NEW BUSSINESS</i> | | | |
| WILDLAND PPE | There is still Wildland money in the budget from the \$200,00 we received from Metro. A few Part-time and full-time people still need gear for their wildland gear to be complete. The cost is \$17,242, but it is coming from 3 different vendors | Informational | Informational |
| | We received the invoice from Fire and Specialty on the Quint refurb it was \$177,000 total. There was money in the budget to pay for the quint so a request was made to pay for the bill out of checking. | Mot.:Scott Clark 2nd.: Greg Longacre | Motion passed with no objections |
| <i>COMMITTEE & OTHER REPORTS</i> | | | |
| TRAINING OFFICE | <p>5 firefighters went to Indianapolis for a conference</p> <p>There are several people in live fire instructor class.</p> <p>Chief Mouser got the steps put in on the inside of the burn building.</p> <p>The big drone has come in and 7 people have been enrolled into the pilot program.</p> | Informational | Informational |
| FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE | Property is being developed on New Cut across from the new car wash just down from Gene Snyder. | Informational | Informational |
| S.O.G. COMMITTEE | No new SOG's for this meeting | Informational | Informational |
| TRUCK COMMITTEE | Still there | Informational | Informational |

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| MOTION TO ADJOURN | | Motion: Luke Rhode 2nd: Mindy Stoess | |
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Respectfully submitted,

MELANIE COOMER
Secretary of the Board