



# PLAINFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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## BOARD OF FIRE TRUSTEES

President Bill Barnes called the October 12, 2021 meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Plainfield Fire Protection District to order at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance at the District Headquarters located at 23748 W. 135<sup>th</sup> Street, Plainfield, IL in the Board Room.

A roll call attendance was taken as follows: Trustee Tom Paul – present; Trustee Bob Baish – present; Trustee Bill Barnes – present; Trustee Doug Shreve – present; Trustee Ted Peszynski – present.

Also in attendance were Chief Jon Stratton; Deputy Chief Vito Bonomo; Deputy Chief Mark Reynolds; Attorney John Motylinski; and Admin. Assistant Mary Jo Fazio. Brad O’Sullivan, Governmental Accounting called in.

**Open Forum** – Firefighter/Paramedic Ray Crompton and Eric Watkins both addressed the Board regarding COVID testing and vaccines.

**Correspondence** – Trustee Paul read thank you notes from a class of students at Shorewood Elementary School, Steven Rauter who retired from Wescom as the Executive Director, a resident who appreciated that we attended their three year old’s birthday, Homer Township Fire Protection District for assisting with a structure fire and a resident thanking us for hosting the Fire Prevention Open House.

**A motion was made by Trustee Baish to approve the September 14, 2021 meeting minutes, seconded by Trustee Shreve. All in favor, motion carried.**

Brad O’Sullivan, Governmental Accounting, reviewed the Treasurer’s report with the Board. **A motion was made by Trustee Baish to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented, seconded by Trustee Peszynski. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Trustee Peszynski – yes; Trustee Shreve – yes; Trustee Barnes – yes; Trustee Baish – yes; Trustee Paul - yes. Motion carried.**

**A motion was made by Trustee Shreve to pay the bills in the usual manner, seconded by Trustee Peszynski. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Trustee Peszynski – yes; Trustee Shreve – yes; Trustee Barnes – yes; Trustee Baish – yes; Trustee Paul - yes. Motion carried.**

**Old Business** – No old business.

**New Business** – No Board of Review Notices were received.

One Annexation was received from Joliet. Attorney John Motylinski stated there is no action to be taken.

No Tax Objections were received.

Attorney’s Report – John Motylinski discussed the Pension consolidation.

The Board reviewed the Impact Fee Reduction letter that was received from a developer for a new project that will be in the Village. After some discussion, **a motion was made by Trustee Shreve not to reduce the impact fees as requested, seconded by Trustee Baish. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Trustee Paul – yes; Trustee Baish – yes; Trustee Barnes – yes; Trustee Shreve – yes; Trustee Peszynski – yes. Motion carried.**

Chief Stratton informed the Board that we did not receive any snowplow bids in the requested time frame. The Chiefs will review previous snowplow costs and if the cost is over \$20,000.00; they will post another bid proposal.

Board consideration and a motion to approve the 2022 insurance renewal proposal for employee benefits. This was tabled until the November 9, 2021 meeting.

Brad O'Sullivan, Governmental Accounting, presented the 2021 Tax Levy determination to the Board. He stated the 2021 Tax Levy request is \$17,901,500.00. He also stated we are under Truth and Taxation so we don't have to publish it or have a hearing. After some discussion, **a motion was made by Trustee Baish to accept the 2021 Tax Levy as presented, seconded by Trustee Paul. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Trustee Paul – yes; Trustee Baish – yes; Trustee Barnes – yes; Trustee Shreve – yes; Trustee Peszynski – yes. Motion carried.**

Evaluation and possible extension of Chief Stratton's contract. Two Trustees will meet with Chief Stratton and review his performance. This will be discussed at the November 9, 2021 meeting after the performance review has been completed.

Discussion and possible action on the exemption section of Policy 3.45 – COVID Vaccination and Testing. Trustee Shreve requested closed session.

**Chief's Report** – It was reported that income from billing services was \$133,848.41 from Andres Medical. Billing income from USA Fire Recovery was \$4,856.00. All other reports have been distributed for review.

Chief Stratton updated the Board on the following items:

- Overtime was up due to some members being on light duty or off due to injuries.
- All events for Homecoming went well.
- Open House was held on Saturday, October 9. It was different this year due to COVID but it went very well.
- We received the American Water Grant.

Deputy Chief Bonomo stated calls are up 11% from last year at this time. He also said the new ambulance is on schedule for delivery and the tower ladder should be ready by April 2022.

**Committee Reports** – Nothing to report.

**A motion was made by Trustee Shreve to adjourn to closed session at 6:56 p.m. to discuss any lawful purpose permitted by the Open Meeting Act, seconded by Trustee Baish. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Trustee Paul – yes; Trustee Baish – yes; Trustee Barnes – yes; Trustee Shreve – yes; Trustee Peszynski – yes. Motion carried.**

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The regular meeting reconvened at 7:38 p.m. by a motion from closed session. Personnel issues were discussed.

**A motion was made by Trustee Baish to authorize the Chiefs and Counsel to investigate the religious beliefs presented to us for the exemption of COVID testing as quickly as possible, seconded by Trustee Shreve. A roll call vote was taken as follows: Trustee Peszynski – yes; Trustee Shreve – yes; Trustee Barnes – yes; Trustee Baish – yes; Trustee Paul – yes. Motion carried.**

**There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Shreve to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m., seconded by Trustee Peszynski. All in favor, motion carried.**

**The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Tom Paul, Secretary*

Mary Jo Fazio, Administrative Assistant