

**WONDER LAKE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 31, 2023**

The Board of Trustees of the Wonder Lake Fire Protection District held their regular monthly meeting on October 31, 2023 at Station 1, Wonder Lake, IL

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** President/Trustee Todd Rishling, Secretary/Trustee Michelle Stierle, Treasurer/Trustee Dave Bruchsaler, Trustees Cheryl Hammerand (Remotely) and Erv Gall, Chief Mike Weber, Attorney Ericka Thomas and three members from the Department or public was present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** E. Gall motioned to approve the agenda as written. M. Stierle seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The September 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes were reviewed. M. Stierle motioned to approve the Minutes as written. E. Gall seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

The July 25, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes tabled until next month.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** M. Stierle motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report for October 2023. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. PBS collected a gross amount of \$22,729.09 for September 2023 and their fee was \$1,136.45.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – GEMT has been filed and awaiting approval.

Johnny B Landscaping submitted a snowplow proposal. D. Bruchsaler motioned to accept Johnny B Landscaping snowplow proposal: \$50.00 for West side and \$60.00 for East side. M. Stierle seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

**OLD BUSINESS** – M. Stierle would like to purchase new chairs for the day room. Chief Weber will get prices for new chairs.

Discussed camera status. Our first quote was over our budget. Chief will sit down with one Trustee to see what we actually need to have cameras on so we can get correct quote.

**NEW BUSINESS** – Discussed annexing into the Village of Wonder Lake to get sewer and water options. The Village cannot come up with exact cost to the District, but they advised the District would be responsible for connection, install and fees. Discussed failing septic at Station #1. We are not going to be able to wait much longer on installing a new septic. Annexation tabled until next month until we get solid numbers on District cost for sewer and water. Septic at Station #2 is holding up.

**ATTORNEY REPORT** – Discussed black boxing for the levy. T. Rishling motioned to black box for 9.99%. M. Stierle seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved. Attorney Thomas will publish.

Still ongoing with employee investigation.

**TRUSTEES REPORT** – C. Hammerand received a phishing email. Was advised to report it to outlook.

County Trustee Meeting went well. Chief from Rockton did a presentation on massive fire they had. Code enforcement is important.

There may be a bill brought to Congress about having remote meetings and still have a quorum. They want it more structured yet still want to comply with open meetings act but make it easier on Trustees.

**CHIEF'S REPORT** – Total calls for September 2023 is 91. We provided mutual/auto aid seven times and we received mutual/auto aid 17 times. Other Chiefs in surrounding areas are aware of our labor shortage and are always willing to help. If we do not have the manpower, we do not send anyone for auto aid. In September and October, we ran shifts without medic and shifts without EMT or FF.

We received the locks for the Knox boxes and will try to replace all in one day.

The man doors for Station #1 are in. Someone will be coming to install within a week or two. The one door at Station #2 will be done this year as well.

Survey is done for septic, boring is completed and plans are being drawn up. We are periodically pumping the septic at Station #1 to keep it from backing up. In the future will look into heli pad for the back.

CPR program is moving along. Julie Randecker is taking over the program. We have a few things we need to order before we can actually start. She will be starting with the boy/girl scouts.

Congratulations to Casey Spangler for receiving her Bachelor of Science degree. We are proud of you!

Possibly looking at promoting two Lieutenants next month.

We have two new resignations due to jobs. Jeremy Lentz accepted a job in Streamwood and Logan Croner is working in Harvard and they are sponsoring him in paramedic program. Once he is done with class, he will come back.

Discussed impact fees. The Village is running a little behind with impact fee checks and should receive late November or early December.

The Fall Fest went well. A lot of work went into it from the fire department, the Village and the Community Club. It was a great turnout. Next year need to find better parking. Trustees thanked Chief Weber and the crews that day as well as G. Hennessey and Jager along with the Explorers.

Discussed station coverage. Contacted Northwest Rescue. Cannot afford to hire full time employees. Would like to have our employees sign up for shifts and then on the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month send our calendar/shifts over to Northwest for them to fill the empty spots. Some of their members are certified in fire and medic and some are not. Hourly rate for EMT-B is \$40.00 per hour and Medic is \$55.00 per hour. Would like to do 12-hour shifts. Trustees would need to know if background checks are done previously before hiring on at Wonder Lake. In addition, does Northwest take care of licensing in our system? Do we have a right to refuse an employee? Chief Weber will look into further and get a contract for the next meeting. Attorney Thomas would like the following added into the contract: “when said employee is at Wonder Lake, they are required to comply with District rules and regulations.”

G. Hennessey gave an update on Jager. He was in the hospital for 36 hours but seems to be doing fine now. Could not figure out why he was sick. Took him on a few tracks. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> will create a much harder level system for him to compete with. As long as he does well with it, will schedule him for a blind test, which is an 8-hour day. Will continue to track him until he passes. Each certification level will be harder. Working with J. Larsen because he runs k-9 company and trains police dogs. J. Larsen is also interested in the drone program. Chief Weber advised there are a few nonmembers who are interested in the drone program as well. G. Hennessey advised drone operators need to be willing to come to canine trainings with the drone. T. Rishling would like to push the drone program a little faster. Discussed an intergovernmental agreement between the District and G. Hennessey. Attorney Thomas will draft something. Chief Weber will get the details.

T. Rishling wondered if we can make one of our ambulances BLS that way if we have a BLS and two EMT's, we could still transport. Chief Weber will have Cindy Tabert look into this.

Chief Weber would like to fill the Deputy Chief position. Trustees will advertise for hiring a new Deputy Chief.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None

**ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION** – None

**APPROVAL OF BILLS AND PAYROLL** – The invoices and payroll were presented for payment. M. Stierle motioned to approve the invoices and payroll for September 2023 totaling \$100,000.00. E. Gall seconded the motion. Roll call vote: All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

E. Gall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:12 a.m.; M. Stierle seconded the motion. All Trustees present voted Aye. Motion approved.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Trustee/Secretary: Michelle  
Stierle