

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Deer Park Silverton Joint Fire District

Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

Held at 7050 Blue Ash Road, Silverton Ohio 45236

December 17, 2024

4:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Board of Trustees

Frank Maupin absent

Don Kincaid

Steve Imhoff

William Jetter

Mark Feldhaus

Fred Gunnels

Britt Born

Jack Cameron

Also Present

Dennis Meador - Fire Chief

Belinda C. Joerger Clerk Treasurer

Alan Abes – Solicitor

A motion was made by Jack Cameron, seconded by Don Kincaid to excuse Frank Maupin from the December 17, 2024, regular board meeting, all present voted aye – motion passed.

APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETING:

A motion was made by William Jetter, seconded by Jack Cameron, to accept the minutes from the last regular board meeting held on October 15, 2024. all present voted aye – motion passed.

Action Items

- Discuss increasing part-time personnel compensation to be more competitive with surrounding departments.
- Prepare for union contract negotiations starting next summer.
- Evaluate the need for a levy in 2025 and coordinate timing with any potential school district or city levy.

Clerk's Report

Expenses and Budget Review

- Presentation of expense and other financial reports.
- Belinda Joerger mentions the need for a supplemental resolution for 2024 to purchase rescue tools funded by a Firehouse Subs grant.
- The year-to-date budget for 2024 was reviewed Everything is on target.
- Appropriation resolution for 2025 will be presented for approval.

A motion was made by William Jetter, seconded by Jack Cameron to accept the Clerk Treasurer report, all present voted aye – motion passed.

Chief's Report and Significant Incidents

Financials and ISO Rating

- Chief Meador reports the ISO rating came back as a three, which is expected and beneficial for commercial businesses.
- The discussion highlights the importance of staffing for higher ISO ratings and the impact on residential and commercial insurance.
- The potential need for a levy in November 2025 is discussed, with the current union contract ending in October 2025.
- Chief Meador emphasizes the importance of stretching budget dollars and the benefits of contracts with Columbia Township and Golf Manor.
- Chief Meador mentions the need to adjust part-time personnel compensation to remain competitive

We're competing with the same small group of part timers in this area. One advantage we might see here soon is that two departments, Montgomery, went full time and Blue Ash is going to drop their part time program. They only have a few people left, and Sycamore Township is still working on trying to get strictly full time and not part time personnel. So, we're one of the few places that have the program.

We just want to try to be in the middle range with the compensation. We are still having some discussions internally with Belinda with the staff, about the possible need to go out for a levy, most likely in November of next year.

The current contract with the union ends October 1 of 2025, so this will be a negotiation year with the with the union representatives. We've had a good relationship with them over the last contract negotiation. We are meeting monthly to discuss things about safety.

We're not a big user of mutual aid, which means we're taking care of our residents. However, costs have gone up, labor has gone up, vehicles have gone up. Inflation hit us hard, so definitely a conversation we need to certainly have and then decide if we want to do it this year.

A motion was made by Don Kincaid, seconded by Britt Born to accept the Chief's report, all present voted aye – motion passed.

Executive Session

At 4:58 -

Britt Born made a motion, seconded by Jack Cameron, to go into an executive session Pursuant to R.C 121.22 (G)(1), "To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official." all present voted aye, motion passed.

No decisions were made.

Back to regular session at 5:15 pm.

- Discussion of old business – none
- Discussion of new business– none
- Public comment – none

Consideration of Legislation –

Clerk Joerger read the following resolutions by title only.

Resolution 2024– 14

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO MAKE ADVANCE PAYMENT OF TAXES

A motion was made by William Jetter, seconded by Britt Born
to accept resolution 2024-14

A roll call vote was taken, all present voted aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2024– 15

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR 2025

A motion was made by Jack Cameron, seconded by Fred Gunnels
to accept resolution 2024-15

A roll call vote was taken, all present voted aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2024– 16

**A RESOLUTION MODIFYING THE DISTRICT CLERK TREASURER'S
COMPENSATION**

A motion was made by Britt Born, seconded by Don Kincaid
to accept resolution 2024-16

A roll call vote was taken, all present voted aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2024– 17

**A RESOLUTION MODIFYING THE DEPUTY CHIEF'S
COMPENSATION**

A motion was made by Jack Cameron, seconded by Mark Feldhaus
to accept resolution 2024-17

A roll call vote was taken, all present voted aye, motion carried.

Resolution 2024– 18

**A RESOLUTION FURTHER INCREASING CERTAIN PART-TIME PAY RATES AND AMENDING
SOG SECTION 2.6.17**

A motion was made by Jack Cameron, seconded by Britt Born
to accept resolution 2024-18

A roll call vote was taken, all present voted aye, motion carried.

Following the vote, Jack Cameron stated that the district is trying to compete with other departments for the same personnel. He stated that in considering the potential need for a new levy, the board is not trying to raise pay rates just to compete with other departments, but to maintain our current operations and retain the personnel we have on staff.

Resolution 2024– 19

A RESOLUTION TO MAKE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2024

A motion was made by William Jetter, seconded by Fred Gunnels
to accept resolution 2024-19

A roll call vote was taken, all present voted aye, motion carried.

A motion was made by Britt Born, seconded by Mark Feldhaus, to adjourn the meeting at
5:25 PM.

Steve Imhoff – President
Treasurer

Belinda C. Joerger – Clerk