

SHELDON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

5 Fire Station Lane
Sheldon, SC 29941

BOARD MEETING

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Wayne Blankenship, Robert Smalls, George Williams, Gregory Gilbert, Sheri Phillips, Rudy Glover

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Seno

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Buddy Jones, Asst. Chief Dale Glass, Jody Ward Administrative Assistant

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Wayne Blankenship at 7:02 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No Public Comments

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF October 21, 2021 BOARD MEETING. BOARD MEMBERS REVIEWED minutes from meeting of October 21, 2021. **MOTION** by Robert Smalls to approve minutes of October 21, 2021. **SECOND** by Rudy Glover. **MINUTES APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSSION

Old Business:

Station Renovation - Architect was going to attend the meeting but the is bad traffic and he will not be here. Contractor has received the final from the engineer and it will be approximately 3 months to get the metal in. 1st shipment of metal was wrong and they had to reorder. Arborist will visit the site on Dec. 20th to approve the trimming of the trees. They are still working on the punch list. Due to all the delays, SFD has spoke with the County Attorney. Their advise is to hold off at this time because if we pull the Contractor's Bond it would halt the job, and we would have to hire a new contractor. Both the Contractor and Architect will be at our next meeting.

Live Call to Architect - Contractor has sub-contracted Mitchell Bros to erected the metal in Phase 2. Architect confirmed to the Board Members that the final extra costs still need to be discussed. The Contractor understands SFD's position as previously discussed. Chief let the Architect know to have an emergency contact number for when Mr. Neil is out of the Country or unreachable by phone.

Bunker Gear - The new Bunker Gear has finally been received and is working out fine.

Audit - The final draft has been received and SFD has a meeting scheduled to go over it before the final book is printed. The audit looks very well. The county collected an additional \$113,000 in tax collected, which will be part of the Cash on Hand Fund. SFD was \$24,000 under budget for the year

Fitness Testing and Physicals - Completed.

Bay Door - SFD is still waiting on parts to repair damage to the bay door. The door is operable for now.

New Business:

FEMA Grant - SFD just submitted an application for the FEMA Grant for new Air Packs. The cost for one new air pack is close to \$10,000 each. SFD will have contribute 5% of the cost. FEMA only allows \$7999 for each air pack.

Budget - SFD has begun working on the new Budget for 2022/2023. Right now there will be no increase in operations. Looking at \$105,000 increase in personnel for salary adjustments so SFD can pay more salary to our firefighters so they will not leave to find employment elsewhere. SFD is one of the lowest paying Departments in Beaufort County. It will range between \$3000 - \$4000 increase per year. SFD will eliminate the A, B, and C firefighter and have an Senior Engineer Firefighter that will encompass all the requirements that was required in the pass to promote to Senior C. The budget draft will be ready by the next meeting.

Neal's Construction - Commissioner & Board Discussion regarding Contractor - If they were to fire Contractor and pull the Bond and let Mitchell Bros finish Phase 2. Chief will contact the County Attorney to see what is the best way to handle this situation.

Treasurer's Report - SFD has drawn \$600,000 to date with \$947,680 left to draw with \$122,550 left in Dept. Service. SFD is on average is spending \$28,000 per week and has \$30,000 per week available. Current checkbook balance is \$310,547. There is currently \$411,000 in the Cash on Hand Fund balance. After the Board Members review, **MOTION** made by George Williams to approve the Treasurer's Report. **SECOND** by Robert Smalls. **MOTION APPROVED.**

Vehicle Maintenance: Up to Date

Fire Marshall Inspections: Up to Date

Training Report: Up to date.

Call Summary: 758 Calls through November 2021

ADJOURNMENT: **MOTION** to adjourn meeting by George Williams. **SECOND** by Gregory. **MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING APPROVED.**

MEETING ADJOURNED by Chairman Wayne Blankenship at 7:43 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVED: February 17, 2022