



WILTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

9800 Dillard Road • Wilton, CA 95693

(916) 687-6920 • Fax (916) 687-8920

www.wilton-fire.org

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. WILTON FIRE STATION 81

ATTENDANCE

Directors Present: Obe Brown, Ron Fiorica, Joe Guardino, Al Iaccopucci and Edgar Monroy

Staff Present: Fire Chief, Jeff Cookson and Clerk of the Board, Andrea Adams

A. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. Director Monroy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Tim Simonsma

B. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

1. WFPD Board Committee Updates – None

C. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Mr. Eugene Rose provided a document to the Board of Directors and staff requesting additional information. He also requested a response from the Board regarding the use of the station signboard.
2. Mr. Tim Simonsma thanked the Board and staff for their effort. He reminded the Board that the Fire District is not a search engine and Mr. Rose can search for the information himself. He would like staff to tone down the time spent responding to requests by Mr. Rose

D. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. M/S Brown/Fiorica To approve the consent calendar as written
Approved 5/0

E. STAFF REPORTS

1. Chief Cookson updated the Board on the prior month's activities through the Chief's Report:
 - i. December 2016 reported 56 calls and December 2017 reported 48 calls;
 - ii. Significant Incidences included a chimney fire;
 - iii. Building and Vehicle Maintenance – The Station 84 training containers were placed into position and modifications will begin soon. Thank you to the Simonsma Family for their help. Captain Kunz worked on the training roof prop. We're waiting to hear from the County regarding the surveying. Squad 81 received new rear tires and was sent to Oakdale for rear door replacement. Captain Kunz attended the Fire Mechanics Meeting and class. New outdoor lighting has been installed at Stations 81 and 83;
 - iv. Fire Prevention included seven new projects from 12/20/17 – 1/12/18;
 - v. Training – Module 1 Training (Month 1 of 2) Structure Fire Evolutions;
 - vi. General Information – Our new rescue is on schedule and will be delivered in early April. I met with Sac County OES and the meeting went well.

Director Guardino thanked Mr. Tim Simonsma for his and his family's help at Station 84.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Firefighter Holiday Pay – Chief Cookson
Recommendation: Chief Cookson recommended holiday pay for fire personnel



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Discussion: Chief Cookson proposed one and a half times the amount the normal stipend for shift and resident volunteers for the holidays indicated on the staff report.

Director Guardino stated it's the least we can do and I'm in full support of this.

Director Brown stated he's not certain if it can be backdated.

Director Guardino stated we can retroact it.

Chief Cookson stated he spoke with Mr. Robert Merritt and he mentioned that it's not a problem since we're only a month out.

Director Fiorica stated he appreciates what the firefighters do and the sacrifices they make during the holidays and doesn't have a problem with Christmas, New Year's and those holidays. However, he does with some of the other holidays (such as Patriot's Day) on the list.

Director Guardino responded that it's a standard list of holidays.

Director Brown stated at the State level we don't get Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day nor Patriot's Day.

Director Guardino asked what the cost per day is? What is the savings if we cross one day off the list?

Chief Cookson stated it's about \$350 - \$450.

M/S Guardino/Iaccopucci To approve the Staff Report as written
Approved 3/2 (Fiorica/Brown)

2. Community Survey – Chief Cookson

Recommendation: Issue a survey to Wilton residents asking if they support an assessment for increased services

Discussion: Chief Cookson stated he thinks it's the first step in moving forward but it's up to the voters and we'd like to know their opinion. I propose we send a letter out and we'll keep a tally. We need to get a figure as to what we think it will be and the range for additional staffing.

Director Brown stated they had done the math on it before and it was \$350 - \$500 more per parcel.

Chief Cookson stated that's not the case.

Director Monroy stated it's his concern that we haven't explored other options yet. I would like to look in-house as to what we can do to retain staff and what kind of approaches we've tried before going out and making a giant step because we can't go backwards once we do this.

Director Guardino responded there's a simple answer to retention and that's pay. We provide an opportunity for young firefighters to get training and experience and build their resume to move on to those other places. If we want to retain them, we have to do what other districts and departments are doing. There's no reason for them to stay here when they can go a short distance away and reap the benefits. I think it's time to look into this. I talked to the Chief about this and I don't see any harm in asking the voters their opinion.

I want to look at the costs and what an assessment will look like down the road. How would our costs not outpace a one-time assessment? Just doing a survey doesn't obligate us to do anything.

Director Monroy stated I want to see that everything possible is done to keep doing what we are doing.

Director Guardino stated there are a lot of other things that he would have to be comfortable with before taking a step beyond the survey.



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Director Monroy stated the Staff Report does not give him enough information and it's preliminary to send out a survey right now.

Director Guardino suggested holding some community meetings so people have the opportunity to ask questions first hand.

Chief Cookson stated he anticipated sending the survey out in March.

Director Brown stated CalPers, medical, dental, etc. needs to be calculated for over a period of at least ten years along with the cost of living increases.

Director Iaccopucci stated he would like to see a total cost before deciding anything.

Director Fiorica stated he would like to see more information on it.

Director Brown suggested looking at the costs in 15 years and adding 10% on a yearly basis (medical, dental, disability, workmen's compensation, etc.).

Chief Cookson asked to table the topic and for the committees to gather more information to present to the Board.

Item was Tabled

3. Payroll Processing Dates for Volunteers – Chief Cookson
Recommendation: Place the Resident Volunteers on the same monthly pay cycle
Discussion: Chief Cookson stated the Resident Volunteers are paid every six months and we'd like to get everyone on the same monthly cycle to streamline things – there are no additional costs.

M/S Guardino/Brown To pay the Resident Volunteers monthly in order to coincide with the regular monthly payroll process
Approved 5/0

G. OLD BUSINESS

1. None


H. IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. None

I. ADJOURNMENT

Board adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Andrea Adams
Clerk of the Board

Approved:



Edgar Monroy
Chairman