



Durango Fire Protection District

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Minutes of the DFPD Regular Board Meeting Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 8:10 a.m. DFPD Station One

President Samantha Gallagher called to order the meeting of the Durango Fire Protection District Board of Directors at 8:07 a.m. Board members present for the Call to Order were Kathy Morris, John Dezendorf, Tina McCallum and Steve List (via zoom). Staff members included Chief Hal Doughty, Deputy Chief Mike Krupa, Deputy Chief Randy Black (via zoom), Finance Director Eric Baker, HR Director Megan Kunch, Battalion Chief Randy Baker, Battalion Chief Don Woodmansee, Fire Marshal Karola Hanks and Administrative Assistant Katie Pounds. Legal Counsel Bud Smith and Pension Board members Bill Luthy and Jameson Bobbin were also in attendance.

AGENDA: Additions, Deletions, Revisions:
No additions, deletions or revisions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- November 22, 2022 Regular Minutes
- December 2, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes
A motion was made by Kathy Morris to approve the November 22, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes and December 2, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes as presented, seconded by John Dezendorf. Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:
No announcements/presentations.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
No public comment.

REPORTS:

Finance Director: Finance Director Eric Baker presented the November and December 2022 financial statements. Eric stated he expects minor adjustments during the audit taking place in April. Tina McCallum asked where the excess from the previous year's budget goes. Chief Doughty explained the excess goes into the Fund Balance. There was brief discussion concerning EMS revenue/collections.

Chief: Chief Hal Doughty made mention of a crew in Albuquerque, NM striking a pedestrian with an engine as they were responding to a call for a fire. Chief made mention in order for DFPD to be mindful in responding to calls.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of Status of Downtown Station:

- I. **River City Hall Site vs. 9-R Site:** Since the City has decided not to partner with DFPD to combine a fire and police station, Chief Doughty reported DFPD's intent on pursuing the purchase and building of the downtown fire station at River City Hall as the 9-R building is more than enough space needed for a new fire station and to house the Administration of DFPD. Chief Doughty will create a comparison of RCH and the 9-R site to show acreage and values. The RCH property acreage DFPD would look to purchase would not include the surrounding park, riverwalk pathway or the access street to Natural Grocer's.
- II. **Negotiation for Values of RCH and 9-R:** Chief Doughty explained the next best move forward would be to negotiate a swap of properties with the City. Chief Doughty explained the difference in value

for the two properties. Once the park, riverwalk pathway and street are extracted from the acreage of RCH the cost will decrease. Board member Tina McCallum shared her concern for growth at the RCH site since the acreage is restricted. Chief Doughty explained the plans for the RCH site do include room for the administration staff and for growth with the crew and apparatus. Since DPD will no longer be partnering with DFPD station wise there is plenty of room for DFPD staff.

- III. **Steps Needing to be Accomplished:** Chief Doughty formulated a proposed timeline for purchase and building of a fire station at the RCH site, including the following benchmarks: a finalized negotiation with the City by March 30 (date of next joint DFPD/City Council meeting), hiring a contractor, site plan review (most of which has been completed), subdivision, community development approval, planning commission approval and City Council approval in the hopes of breaking ground in October. There was discussion on the turnover of city councilors, where to place workforce during construction and where the city employees will be housed temporarily. There was also discussion as to other options available for the downtown station should the negotiations with the City fall through. President Gallagher asked if the timeline would still work if DFPD decides to break ground at the 9-R site. Chief Doughty explained there would be many contingencies.
- IV. **Financing Timelines, Interest Rates and RFP for Contractor:** Finance Director Eric Baker is in touch with financial companies concerning rates. Board member Kathy Morris mentioned DFPD's credit is good. Samantha Gallagher asked if DFPD would need to get multiple bids. Eric Baker confirmed that would be the case. Chief Doughty stated financing cannot be secured until DFPD owns the property.

Board member John Dezendorf asked if the RCH site would be enough room for growth multiple years in the future. Deputy Chief Mike Krupa's reported that if DFPD outgrows the RCH site in the future then a new fire station in a different location needs to be built. Tina McCallum voiced the concern of DFPD's administration staff having room at the RCH site. Deputy Chiefs Mike Krupa and Randy Black have worked on the plans for the RCH site to include the administration staff. To conclude, Chief Doughty mapped out the total cost of building a new station at the RCH site which is significantly less than building a station at the 9-R site.

Impact Fees: Chief Doughty reiterated that San Juan County signed on with the new Impact Fee Schedule. Chief Doughty will present the new Impact Fee Schedule at the City Council meeting on February 7.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration and possible action on Resolution 2023-1: RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE 2023 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF DURANGO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT: Chief Doughty explained there are four seats open for four-year terms. Legal Counsel Bud Smith further explained this resolution would appoint Katie Pounds, DFPD Administrative Assistant, as Designated Election Official which would give her the authority to cancel the election should there not be more candidates than seats to fill. *A motion was made by John Dezendorf to approve Resolution 2023-1: RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE 2023 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS OF DURANGO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, seconded by Tina McCallum. Motion carried unanimously.*

Consideration and possible action on Resolution 2023-2: ESTABLISHING A TIME AND PLACE FOR DURANGO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS: *A motion was made by Tina McCallum to approve Resolution 2023:2: ESTABLISHING A TIME AND PLACE FOR DURANGO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT REGULAR AND SPECIAL MEETINGS, seconded by Kathy Morris. Motion carried unanimously.*

Samantha Gallagher adjourned the meeting at 9:34 a.m.


Samantha Gallagher, President

2/28/23
Date

Attest:


Katie Pounds, Administrative Assistant