

NORTH HIGHLINE FIRE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS MEETING



February 28, 2022

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the regular North Highline Fire District Fire Commissioners' Meeting for February was called to order via GoToMeeting (virtual online meeting) at 6:00 PM by Commissioner Liz Giba. Commissioners Julie Hiatt and Dominic Barrera participated. Also attending via GoToMeeting were Chief Mike Marrs, Assistant Chief Ray Pettigrew, Assistant Chief Wayne Metz, Shauna Sheppard and Washington State Audit team members Jennifer Ramos, Auditor-in-Charge; Alexander Beherndt, Audit Manager; and Sandeep Kaur, Assistant Audit Manager.

Chief Marrs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Hiatt moved to accept the meeting agenda as presented. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

The Washington State Audit Team members delivered the 2020 Washington State Auditor's Report on the North Highline Fire District (NHFD). The presentation included a minor line item pertaining to cash impaired investments. The Final Audit concluded that the NHFD's "operations complied, in all material respects, with applicable state laws, regulations, and its own policies, and provided adequate controls over the safeguarding of public resources."

Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Hiatt moved to accept the minutes of the January 24, 2022 regular meeting as presented. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

Accounts Payable

Commissioner Hiatt moved to approve the February accounts payable vouchers as follows:

- 2202101 to 2202109 in the amount of \$358,051.92 - (February month-end vouchers)
Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0).

Correspondence

- None

Public Comment

- None

Commissioners' Report

- Commissioner Hiatt reported that our Fire Department made a call to her home and did a great job. She thanked Firefighters Jeremy and Matthew.

IAFF Local #1461

- None

Financial Reports

The Board received copies of the February 2022 Treasurer's and Cash Flow Reports, and all are tracking well.

Chief's ReportChief MARRS reported on the following:

- Station 18 Remodel Update – Things are progressing well. Chief MARRS met with the architects and is impressed with their work. Their preliminary drawings include creative of space and ways to implement tenant improvements. Brian Snure reviewed the contract, and it should be ready for the commissioners' review at our March meeting.
- COVID-19 -- Omicron Variant Update – The case count has dropped. Although the BA2 variant is about 30% more contagious than Omicron, it is being mitigated by vaccines, etc. At the beginning of February, the 7-day average was 2,000 cases per 100,000 people. Now, our 7-day average is about 96 cases per 100,000 people. Governor Inslee has announced that the mask mandate will be relaxed effective March 12th, 2022.
- Assessed Value Letter from the King County Assessor's Office – We have received this information which is vital to creation of the budget.
- Firework Ban Communication Plan – This is the first year of the fireworks ban. The plan is to begin public messaging of "Respect Your Neighbors, Respect The Ban." early in the second quarter.
- Chief MARRS attended the February meeting of the North Highline Unincorporated Area Council (NHUAC). (1) Fireworks Ban - Among the issues discussed were the challenges associated with raising awareness of the Fireworks Ban and confronting those who light fireworks. John Taylor of King County's Department of Local Services (DLS) has asked NHFD to help. Chief MARRS believes we can assist prior to, but not on July 4th because we are too busy. Commissioner Hiatt brought up the idea of a professional, legal fireworks show on the 4th of July as an alternative. A discussion followed wherein Commissioner Hiatt offered to see if a neighborhood entity is interested in and able to sponsor a community show. (2) North Highline Subarea Plan - Jacquelyn Reed of DLS gave a presentation on the Subarea Plan. There is a definite need for further review and identification of proposed density and impacts of that increase of people and buildings. We have significant concerns, such as call volume, water supply, access problems related to narrow streets, other road, and fire lane issues. The higher

the density, the more aid and fire calls requiring our response. The height of the buildings will also add issues as NHFD does not have a ladder truck. Writing a letter to the Local Services Department about our concerns was discussed. Multi-family and commercial building design standards will be discussed at the March NHUAC meeting. Councilman Joe McDermott is invited to NHUAC’s April meeting.

- There was a fire over the weekend at 110th and 4th; Ladder 354 from Tukwila responded in support. Per Asst. Chief Wayne Metz, the fire started in the kitchen and went into the attic but was rapidly extinguished .

Attorney’s Report

- None

Unfinished Business

- 2022 Fire Benefit Charge Appeals Board Review – As reflected on the Appeals List, six (6) 2022 Fire Benefit Charge Appeals were filed. During the review and discussion of the Appeals, the commissioners noted that Appeal #'s 1, 4, 5, and 6 are supported by documentation. Commissioner Hiatt moved to grant Appeals 1, 4, 5, and 6 to the extent allowed by county standards and deny Appeals 2 & 3 on the Appeals List. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0). A copy of the Appeals List on file with the meeting minutes.

New Business

- None

Good of the Order

- None

As there was no further business, Commissioner Hiatt moved to adjourn. Commissioner Barrera seconded. Motion carried (3-0), and the meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary of the Board



Chairman, Commissioner



Commissioner



Commissioner