

**Anchorage Middletown Fire & EMS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES/ 108 Urton Lane
May 29, 2024
Minutes**

I. Opening

- a. Chairperson Kyle Galloway called the meeting of the Board to order at 4:34 pm. at AMFEMS Station #1. The trustees present were Andy Downes, Rick Dattilo, Thomas Wobbe, Jon Jarrel, Mindy Sunderland, and Linda Oliver. Also in attendance were Chief Kevin Groody, Chief Kevin Tyler, Major Wolfe, Deputy Chief Goolsby, Major Maddux, Deputy Chief Michel, Deputy Chief Brooks, Major Taylor, Captain Durtche, Sergeant Justice, Major Maddux, Rob Miller, Captain DeVries. Firefighter Lee, Firefighter Nicholason, Firefighter Yeager, Captain Grassi, Major Hanson, Tonya Smith, Pam Henehan as well as 24 others via Zoom, Shannon Ran as recorder, and Bryan Dillon, general legal counsel to the Board.

II. Approval of Minutes

Regular Meeting – April 16, 2024

- a. The minutes for the April 16th meeting were included in the May board package. Motion by Rick Dattilo to approve the minutes, second by Andy Downes. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Financial Reports

- a. Financial Statement: Period Ending April 30, 2024
Thomas Wobbe reviewed financials and entertained questions.

IV. Expenditure Requests

Nothing currently

V. Surplus Equipment

Nothing currently.

VI. Chief's Reports - Chief Groody Had Nothing new to report

- a. **Executive Assistant- Deputy Chief Tyler** Had nothing new to report and turned it over to Tonya.

Human Resources- Tonya Smith- reported that the academy interviews have been completed, and we are on the next steps. Inspector III started June 5th. The Workforce Development Captain position will open up. Also gave the update on the new Pension rates starting July 1st.

Health & Safety- Major Maddux – reported on the information that was in the May packet and entertained questions.

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- b. **EMS Administration- Deputy Chief Brooks** reported on the information that was in the May packet and entertained questions.
- c. **FIRE Operations- Deputy Chief Goolsby, Kruer, & Sutt** –Deputy Chief Goolsby reported the monthly operation numbers and entertained questions.
 - Special Operations- Deputy Chief Kent Kruer-** Unable to attend.
 - Hazmat Operations- Major Brad Oser** – Unable to attend.
- d. **Logistics – Deputy Chief Joe Wolfe-** reported that the smel quad is back and up and operational, and its sister will be going to Florida to have the warranty work completed
 - Facilities & IT- Rob Miller-** reported that Station 31 received its landscape upgrade, and they will begin the facelift of the upstairs and downstairs at Station 31 shortly. Station 35 is getting an upgrade on their downstairs kitchen.
 - Fleet Services- Autumn Offutt** – nothing new to report
- e. **Planning/Community Risk- Deputy Chief Michel** reported that we received some of the money from the Covid FEMA grant reimbursement. The Summer life jacket safety push will begin next week.
 - Fire Marshal Office- Major Hanson-** reported on the rezoning of the area across from station 35, as well as the traffic exchange process.
 - PIO- J. Yuodis** – was unable to attend

VII. Old Business

There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

- a. Review of the FY'25 Draft Budget.

Chief Groody reviewed the FY'25 Budget Statement Summary and draft which included the salary structure compression. Talked about raising the tax rate from .165 to .17 to help cover the salary compression proposal or raising the tax rate from .165 to .18 to help cover the salary compression proposal, as well as the proposed capital projects. Chief Groody turned it over to Trustee Wobbe (Finance Committee Chairperson). Trustee Wobbe explained the finance committee met for numerous hours on the draft budget, and what the pros & cons would be if the draft budget was adopted as is. \$1.9 million of the FY'25 budget will only include the salary compression proposal. Trustee Wobbe and Chief Groody entertained questions from the board. (Trustee Oliver-How many members have left due to salary concerns? Trustee Sunderland- How long have we been at the tax rate of .165? Will the salary compression help offset the overtime cost? Trustee Downes- Where is the 2 million in "surplus" money? Chief Groody explained the numbers on the books are not really

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“surplus” funds. Trustee Downes requested that we change the wording and stop using the word “surplus”.) Trustee Wobbe explained the tax rate increase to .18 would cover the long-term capital projects of upgrading the Training Facility, building a new station 36, and the logistics of purchasing new property.

Took a short break from 5:10 – 5:16

Deputy Chief Michel reviewed the proposed PayScale adjustment presentation, and entertained questions. Chief Groody and Trustee Wobbe entertained questions as well.

Chairperson Galloway requested a special meeting to be held on June 12, 2024, at 4:30 pm at AMFEMS Station 31 Boardroom, to have specific questions and more information provided on the budget draft.

IX. Open Forum

Nothing for Open Forum

X. Executive Session

Nothing for Executive Session

XI. Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 6:42 pm. by Andy Downes, second by Rick Dattilo. The motion passed unanimously.

Shannon F. Ran
Executive Administrative Assistant
Recording Secretary for the Board

*Supporting documents are available by request through the Fire Protection District.