

Wasatch County Fire Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday May 14, 2024

Meeting held at the Wasatch County Administration Building located at 25 N Main, Heber City.

Those in Attendance:

Steve Farrell

Luke Searle

Erik Rowland

Kendall Crittenden

Karl McMillan

Mark Nelson

Chief Eric Hales

Dustin Grabau

Farrell: Welcome to the Wasatch Fire District Board meeting on May 14th – the time is 4:15pm. We have the whole board here with the exception of Spencer Park. Our first item on the agenda is the minutes from our April 9th, 2024. Has everyone had the chance to review the minutes?

A motion was made by Councilman Nelson to approve the April minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilman Crittenden and the motion passed all in favor.

Farrell: Next item on the agenda is the warrants. We have warrants in the amount of \$1,444,440.04. Chief, is there anything on the warrants list that stands out?

Chief: No, nothing stands out. Again, with the construction of that station we are spending at least anywhere from three quarters to a million dollars a month as we construct that. And later I will get into more detail but that is primarily the lion's share of that money.

Farrell: Okay, and we're making requests to the CIB Board for reimbursement and is that going alright?

Chief: That is correct.

Farrell: Any other questions?

A motion was made by Councilman Nelson to approve the warrants in the amount of \$1,444,440.04. The motion was seconded by Councilman Rowland and the motion passed all in favor.

Farrell: Let's go to the Financial Summary. I will turn the time to Kierstan.

Kierstan: In your packet, there is a quarterly financial statement that's as of March 31st. On the back there are a lot more detailed notes than what I am going to give you today. So, if you want a little more information, you can look there. I am just going to touch on a few things and then answer any questions

you may have. So, I am going to focus more on Revenues and Expenses, since those are what we are kind of concerned about at this time.

On our revenues, which is on page 3 in your packet on your financial statements, you will see with property taxes and sales taxes, our taxes that we are looking at a quarter of the way through the year, everything is really low. And that is to be expected, we will start seeing sales tax revenue come in the second quarter of this year. Then our property taxes usually come in starting in December. We expect not a lot there for most of the year.

Under charges for services, we do have some that are a little high so far and it actually kind of shows you what is happening within the community and with the growth. We have our planned inspection revenue already at 24% and the processing fees, so the processing fee is when they come in and build, they make a \$5,000 deposit for landscaping, they have to pay this \$100 processing fee. So that is just showing you that number has actually been a little faster so far and it may level off. It just depends on whether they are going to pay that or not.

Under 'other revenues' another item that is unusual, for this year it is something new, you will see that second line down it says 'Contributions from other local governments' that is the money that is coming in for the South Summit contract. Just so you know what that is.

On the expense side-salary and benefits were at about 25% of where we should be, so we are great and staying right in line with budget. Other operating expenses are really low right now at 13% but if you are scanning down the numbers, there are couple things-well one thing that is a little high or at 100% which is your liability insurance. That is just tiny because it is paid once a year, but it does look different. We are looking good though overall on the general fund.

On the Capitol Project fund, if you go to page 6, that is where we hold all of our impact fees, where we hold our moneys been designated by the board for the capitol improvements. You will see the impact fees are at 26.6% already of our budgeted amount which again gives you an idea of the growth happening within the area because we are already exceeding expectations, and if we stay like this for the rest of the year, we would be higher than what we budget for.

Crittenden: What does it show the percentage on that page?

Kierstan: So go to the end, the last column.

Crittenden: Okay, there it is.

Kierstan: Everything else is just a timing thing. We are sending in requests to the CIB and once we get that money in, we will do the transfers between the funds which is this Capitol Project Fund and take it over to the General Fund to reimburse those expenditures. Are there any questions I can answer for you?

Farrell: Yes, on the revenue side, where we went to Sales Tax, do you have any indication on how much came in that first quarter?

Dustin Grabau: We didn't start collecting that until the 2nd quarter. It didn't start yet at the first.

Farrell: Oh, I thought we passed that last year.

Grabau: So, we passed it last fall during quarter 4, they used quarter 1 as an implication time so it didn't start until 2nd quarter.

Farrell: Alright, sorry. Thank you. Any other questions for Kierstan?

Kierstan: Okay, so next month we are on track to have the audit issued right around the first of June and we will present that at our next meeting.

Councilmembers: Thank you.

Farrell: Let's have a motion to approve the financial statement.

A motion was made by Councilman Crittenden to approve the Quarter 1 Financial Statement as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMillan. The motion passed all in favor.

Farrell: Now let's go to Ordinate 24-06-Appendix L.

Chief: Again, this is going to be a little more informational since you will actually read this tomorrow in your council meeting which is where this will be approved. But we wanted to bring this and present this to you from Clint's presentation last month if you recall.

Farrell: Any questions on that ordinance?

We would approve this as a council and not a fire board.

Chief: That is our understanding. We have been working with our legal and County's legal with it being an adoption, change to the County's Fire Code, it's an addition too. So, we will be presenting tomorrow night. Chief Neerings, and I believe Rob will attend that meeting, at least virtually, and present this I guess for your first reading if that is the process.

Farrell: Okay, any other questions on 24-06?

No, okay let's go to the Chief Report for 2024 date, April.

Chief report

Chief: Yes, so if you do have any questions on that Appendix L, which is the FAR System, Firefighter Air Replenishing System as well as adopting the Special Hazards Two Classification for garages, please let me know.

Just a quick touch on what happened in April, Several members did complete our Engineer Task Book. That Task Book is part of our professional development program that we implemented this last year with those that were seeking the position of engineer or driver/operator of our heavy apparatus. They have testing and a book that they go through to accomplish certain tasks in order to get that completed, and we appreciate the County's Rodeo Complex, allowing us to use it for testing with our apparatus. And then we did conduct our Wildland Refresher Course. Next month we will have Battalion Chief Troy Morgan give us a run down of what the projections are for the Wildfire season is for 2024.

Then you'll also see in our hand out that we did have a hang glider crash at the airport in the beginning of April. We have also had other incidents involving car crashes and then we did have an over pressurization at Lee's Market, part of their system which caused a small explosion. There was no

structural damage, no injuries associated with that. We are conducting PALS training, which is Pediatric Advanced Life Support Training, that is a certification our folks have to complete every couple of years. So, we are working through that.

Any questions?

Rowland: There was a car fire last Friday by Deer Creek. Were there any injuries or anything?

Chief: No reported injuries for that. Obviously, property damage to the vehicle.

Farrell: Just curious, was that an electrical vehicle?

laughter

Chief: No, it wasn't.

Crittenden: Chief, have you touched base with the High School for safety protocols in their shops? You probably heard about the tragedy at Lehi High School that apparently a student had brought in a 50 gallon drum that had supposedly been rinsed, I don't know what had been in it before, but the teacher was going to cut it long wise for whatever reason, but the teacher went to cut it with the torch and when he hit it, it exploded on him.

Chief: I did hear about that incident, but I did not hear the details on the incident.

Crittenden: Like I said, I don't know what was in it or how the barrel had been rinsed but obviously it wasn't rinsed well enough. Just wanted to know if we have touched based with the High School for protocols on something like that.

Chief: We do not typically inspect the schools fall under the State Fire Marshall Office but obviously we need to coordinate in those efforts with our shop teacher and their emergency response plan as well. So, thank you for mentioning that.

Farrell: Any other questions? Chief, do you have anything else?

Searle: How much money has Hideout raised in their fundraising efforts?

Chief: They are still in...I will say this, they are raising funds for themselves. Because they did not budget for the assistance that they offered to us. It is you all that have stepped up with allowing us to provide that facility. Obviously, they have a goal of \$200,000 but I don't know where they sit on that, since it is fairly new.

Farrell: Is it their intent to reimburse the County?

Chief: I think if they meet their financial needs, I think they would carry that over. One of the things we do not want to do is purchase that piece of property, we want them to donate it for us and have it prepared for the new station. I don't like the mixed messages that have been sent and they know that, but we have been very grateful to our community members throughout the county that passed Proposition 9 that's what the intent of that was. I think the timing of this was not optimal at least in my mind, but it is what it is.

Farrell: Any other questions?

A motion was made by Councilman Crittenden to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMillan. The motion was passed all in favor.