

Wasatch County Fire Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday January 10, 2023

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

Those in Attendance:

Mark Nelson

Eric Rowland

Steve Farrell

Spencer Parks- Absent

Kendall Crittenden

Luke Searle- Absent

Karl McMillan

Chief Eric Hales

Dustin Grabau

Councilman Farrell: Welcome to the January meeting of the Wasatch County Fire District. We welcome you all here, we have the entire fireboard with the exception of Spencer Parks. He is tied up in Wallsburg and isn't going to make it. We have two new members to the fire board: We have Eric Rowland and Carl McMillan. We would like to welcome them, I'm sure you will get to know them well. We will start the meeting with the approval of the minutes for December 13th, have we had a chance to approve the minutes?

The minutes of the December 13th board meeting were presented to the board for their review and approval. **A motion was made by Councilman Crittenden to approve the minutes of the December 13th fire board meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMillan and the motion passed all in favor.**

Warrants

Councilman Farrell: Okay, the next thing we have is the warrants. The warrants for that time period are 382,798.96. Chief, is there anything on the warrant list that is unusual?

Chief Hales: No, pretty much everything is in line. The one thing to note for our new folks, and I look forward to working with Eric, Carl, and Luke on this. Prior to coming to this meeting we actually met with some members of the fire commission, advisory commission and they do go through that. One

notable thing is its that time of year to do our annual renewal with our medical director so we have a check for him in there. Then we also have some per diem checks for those who will be attending the annual fire school in St. George. There are actually three meetings that happen: The State Chiefs meeting, The State Fire Marshals Association, and Then the Utah Fire and Rescue Academy actually puts on the winter fire school. We will be sending about 8 folks to that class as well for some additional training.

Councilman Rowland: Is that an annual fee?

Chief Hales: It is an annual fee for that Medical Director, and its

Councilman Farrell: Is the Medical Director still Dr. Kemp?

Chief Hales: Yes he is, and we are actually when we give him this check we will be sitting down with him to establish the 2023 expectations. What he needs from us as far as medical providers and what we need form him as far as medical direction and some guidance going forward.

Councilman Nelson: The AJC Architects?

Chief Hales: That is our firm that has been doing our station. We are going to be meeting with them Tuesday to finalize the construction documents so we can go to bid. So this is just the next installment as we have, the design documents are complete and then we have moved to the construction document phase, and that's what we will use to go out and bid.

Councilman Farrell: Did we get the relocation of the canal completed?

Chief Hales: No, we did not.

Councilman Farrell: Is that going to happen in the spring?

Chief Hales: Yes. Unfortunately, just with some hiccups with the requirements for Heber City and then with the weather hasn't helped us out at all. We are actually just working with Bryan in Heber City to try and finalize all of those pieces.

Councilman Farrell: Did we issue a contract with them?

Chief Hales: Yes we did that was to Hogan and associates.

Councilman Farrell: What's the issues with the city?

Chief Hales: It was just some realignments because it was right on the **Higgen** property and we had to go back to the Higgen family to talk about adjusting that canal and the right of way as close to the property line as we could because it was right up against the station. So, to work out all of those details.

Councilman Farrell: So there is no push back from them?

Chief Hales: No, Bryan Balls was able to put the document together. I believe it has all been signed, it just hasn't been accepted by the city so we can move on to the next phase.

Councilman Farrell: Is Hogan going to rebid this, or is he going to do it for the original bid amount?

Chief Hales: As of right now they are the same bid amounts, cross our fingers that we are not going to have to go out and redo this and set us behind again on the station.

Councilman Farrell: Thank you Chief

A motion was made by Councilman Nelson to approve the warrants as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMillan and the motion passed all in favor.

Chief report

Councilman Farrell: Well, any update you have Chief you want to present?

Chief Hales: Just some highlights for the month of December. We had the opportunity to participate with the Sheriffs office and the Police Department with their annual shop with a cop event for the kids. It was well attended, and we appreciate that invitation and being with them. We did receive, or were able to work on a building that was being demolished in Midway. We were able to work on our forceable entry training, its not always that we get the opportunity to do some actual live training on buildings that are going to be extensively remodeled or torn down, that was very beneficial. In the month of December, we had two notable fires. One in Heber city on Calloway drive, It was in the eves and actually in the roof structure. Then we also had a vehicle fire in the garage in Deer Crest. The one in Deer Crest was actually an unoccupied home and we were actually notified by and the fire was held in check by the fire suppression system, having sprinklers in the garage. It is noted that the new fire sprinkler ordinance you don't need them in the garage anymore, but in this case it really helped us because this was over a 10,00 SF home if not 15,000 SF. This helped us immensely in the house. Obviously, we did the swearing in. This weather, as I know you guys are very well aware has been keeping us all weather its public utilities, public works, and ourselves very busy.

Councilman Crittenden: So how were you able do the training in that building? Did you just happen to come across that, or do you know if there are jurisdictions to let you know about something like that?

Chief Hales: Yeah, generally with Chief Neerings when he's out and about with his Fire Marshal work he keeps his ear to the ground and I think its well known to a lot of the contractors and folks out there that if you have something available please let us know. We are going to be doing some more training, we are just waiting for the weather to kind of give us a little break, so yeah we have those opportunities that we try to take advantage of. So, that's it, unless you have any questions especially the new folks.

Councilman Farrell: No, we need to do another policy approval. We had these policies given to us a couple months ago, has everyone had a chance to review them? Why don't we entertain a motion then, and did we do one motion covering all of them?

Kristen Richardson: We did not.

Councilman Farrel: We need to entertain a motion covering the policies stated on the agenda.

A motion was made by Councilman Nelson to approve the following polices: Personal Protective Equipment, Grievance Procedure, Smoking and Tabaco Use, High-visibility Safety Vests, Travel Outside

Employment, Vehicle Seat Belts, Member Speech Expression and Social Networking, Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships. This motion was seconded by Councilman Rowland. Passed all in favor.

Councilman Farrell: Anything else Chief?

Chief Hales: Yes, the only thing is on those policies we have probably about 10, Kristen?

Councilman Crittenden: 16.

Chief Hales: 16 left in order to basically transition. What we are doing for our new focus is transitioning from our old policy manual to a digital platform called Lexipol. This is a national platform that is vetted for public safety on the Federal, State and Local level. The Sheriffs office actually uses this program as well. We are transitioning from our current policy manual which is this stack of papers that's about that thick, over to this new platform. And that's where we will have all of our policies, and we will have additional policies as well as our standard operating guidelines will all be housed on this one operating platform. That's what we are working towards.

Councilman Farrell: Anything else?

Chief Hales: Not from me.

Councilman Farrell: Anything from Dustin with the Advisory Commission?

County Manager Dustin Grabau: Yeah, we met last week and had some good discussions talking about strategic planning and our Advisory commissions role in supporting the Fire Districts initiative. Upon updating that, I think that Chief Hales was able to share his plan for completing the strategic plan that we have in place right now and then renewing it in the near future as we have additional items come up. We talked about a few other items, but I think that was the bulk of our meeting discussion. I don't know if there is anything else really. Yeah that's it, unless the council has questions for the commission or things that you would like us to work with the fire district on just let us know.

Councilman Farrell: Do we have an appointment for commission this year?

County Manager Dustin Grabau: Yeah so I think we should. What we didn't do that we probably should have when we first established the Commission was determine how we are handling staggering those seats.

Councilman Farrell: I think we did that.

County Manager Dustin Grabau: I think we intended to but I don't think we ever officially identified which roles were not

Councilman Crittenden: They were going to call us and they were going to decide

County Manager Dustin Grabau: How we were going to, yeah, what we are doing is we are actually going to have an ordinance for you next week on the TAB board, the tax initiative and how that process is that they draw lots to see who has what initiative. I think that we could do the same thing, I think we didn't necessarily address in our bylaws what that interim, who had which seats so..

Dennis Goudy: We do have a list

County Manager Dustin Grabau: We have a list of whose on it, but we didn't identify the terms of whose on which term and I think we do need to do that. So I think that's something we are going to have on our agenda for the next advisory board meeting and then come back to you. I know we had this discussion just last week on if someone was ready to come off and if there was a potential replacement for that particular individual.

Dennis Goudy: And Dustin, if I may, what we could do is take the old one, if its one that Mary and I and Gary agree to the date on all of that we have basically renewed our term limit then go back and adjust it.

County Manager Dustin Grabau: Yeah, my recollection on that it would be at the recommendation of Chief Hales and ratified by the Fire Board. So we will work with Chief Hales on those, if there is a reappointment that needs to be made.

Councilman Farrell: And lets do that in Policy form if we would Dustin. Is there anything else we need to address this session? I do have reason for a closed session, so if there's nothing else I say we entertain a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Councilman Crittenden to go into closed session for personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMillan and the motion passed all in favor

A motion was made by Councilman Crittenden to come out of closed session. The motion was seconded by Councilman McMillan and the motion passed all in favor

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

Councilman Farrell: This is a public hearing for the Wasatch County Fire District. The Fire District is having a public hearing to address concerns for issues with the Fire District acquiring a 15 million dollar loan from the CIB to go to the new fire station. This loan will be at 2% interest for 15 years or 30 years with a repayment plan based on that. So if there is any comment relating to this, or concern relating to this we would like to hear it now.

IT Personnel: If you are online, please raise your hand. There are 3 attendants online.

Councilman Farrell: Okay, lets go to online comments.

Councilman Nelson: Is one of those Spencer Parks?

IT Personnel: No. None of them are raising their hands.

Councilman Farrell: Lets bring on the one then.

IT Man: No, none of them are raising their hands.

Councilman Farrell: Ok, any public comments? Seeing as there are no public comments, I close the public hearing and come back to the fire board to close the Fire Board Meeting. This was an informational meeting for that purpose so we will take no further action.

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