



CRETE TOWNSHIP FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



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MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2022 CTFPD TRUSTEES' MEETING

September 12, 2022

Crete Township Fire Protection District – Station #41

26730 S. Stoney Island

Crete, IL 60417

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7:00 PM – Meeting was called to order by Trustee Miller.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present - Trustee Miller, Trustee Peterlin, Chief Panega, Assistant Chief Swanson, Lieutenant Moeller, Lieutenant Haemker
Absent - Trustee Zimmerman, Deputy Chief Radtke, Lieutenant Pinnick

Motion by Trustee Miller to appoint Trustee Peterlin as Acting Secretary due to the absence of Trustee Zimmerman. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Secretary's Report: Motion was made by Trustee Peterlin to accept the minutes of the August 8, 2022 meeting. Second Trustee Miller. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report was read by Trustee Peterlin. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Trustee Miller. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Fire Call Report: Written report presented - 151 calls were reported for the month of August.

EMS Report: Written report presented. Eighteen people are registered for the September 22nd CPR Class. Lt. Pinnick continues to train on the Assistant EMS Coordinator responsibilities. Ambulance #41 is scheduled to go in next month for the remount.

Training Officer: Written report submitted. Members listed are working on completing outstanding trainings.

Grant Summary: No word has been received on the outstanding grant award notifications.

Fire Prevention: Written report submitted. Pheasant Lake Estates is looking to expand the mobile home park by over 40% with an additional 433 homes. Balmoral Park is seeking a zoning change and exemption for parking semis on the property from Will County.

Deputy Chief: Written report submitted. Ladder testing is scheduled. Pump testing will be scheduled for next month. Accident and ambulance billing are current. The application for reimbursement on the re-chassis of Engine #43 through the American Rescue Plan is under review by Will County.

Chief's Report: Written report was presented. Installation of the new generator at Station #43 is complete. Inspections continue to be on hold due to staffing shortages. Inquiries have been received regarding the construction of a solar field on the northwest corner of Cottage Grove and Munz Roads. Seal coating of the parking lot at Station #41 should begin this week.

Approval of Bills: Motion to accept bills as submitted by Trustee Miller. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Communications: **Dyer Fire Department – Thank You** - A thank you was received from Dyer Fire Department for responding to a fire within the Briar Ridge Country Club on August 3rd.

MABAS 27 - Thank You – A thank you was received from MABAS 27 for the donation given to the Inaugural Golf Fundraiser on July 30th at Cardinal Creek Golf Course.

Notice – Nominating Petitions for April 4, 2023 Election Available September 20, 2022 – Secretary Claus stated a Legal Notice will be published in The Vedette and posted by the District announcing petitions will be available September 20, 2022 for the April 4, 2023 election. One Trustee position is up for election for a six-year term. Petitions must be filed at Station #41 no earlier than December 12, 2022 and no later than December 19, 2022 at 5:00 pm.

Old Business: None.

New Business: **Approve Ordinance #09-12-2022-01 – An Ordinance of the Crete Township Fire Protection District, Adopting the 2018 Edition of the International Fire Code, Regulating & Governing the Safeguarding of Life & Property from Fire & Explosion Hazards Arising from the Storage, Handling & Use of Hazardous Substances, Materials & Devices, & from Conditions Hazardous to Life or Property in the Occupancy of Buildings & Premises in the Crete Township Fire Protection District, Providing for the Issuance of Permits for Hazardous Uses or Operations, & Repealing All Other Ordinances & Parts of the Ordinances in Conflict Therewith** – Chief Panega stated the proposed Ordinance has been reviewed by the attorney and will replace the 2006 fire code currently in place.

Adjustments have been made regarding the governing of sprinkler systems. Upon review, a motion was made by Trustee Miller to approve Ordinance #09-12-2022-01 adopting the 2018 Edition of the International Fire Code as presented. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Approve Zoll Monitor/Defibrillator Service Contract – Bio-Tron Inc. – Trustee Miller made a motion to sign the annual service contract for the cardiac monitors with Bio-Tron, Inc. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Authorize Signing of Life Insurance Renewal Rates – Trustmark Life Insurance Company – Motion by Trustee Miller to accept the renewal offer on the department life insurance through IAFFD. There will be no change in rates for this year. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Citizens Speak:

Firefighter/Paramedic Segert stated he had requested a leave of absence from the department for the months of April, May and June via email to Chief Panega in March 2022. No response or communication from the Chief or CTFPD acknowledging the leave of absence was ever received. FF/PM Segert then presented to Trustees a copy of a letter dated August 29, 2022 from Deputy Chief Radtke stating after numerous attempts to contact him with no response, CTFPD is requesting a letter of resignation by September 15th or the District will terminate his employment. He stated the letter was sent certified mail August 29th, received August 31st and the first phone call he had received from D/C Radtke was August 26th. No attempt by D/C Radtke to contact him prior to August 26th was ever made.

In addition, FF/PM Segert stated he had contacted AFLAC in May to discontinue his supplemental insurance policy held through CTFPD. He presented Trustees with a letter from AFLAC dated May 2022 stating AFLAC could not terminate the policy without CTFPD's approval. A copy of another letter from AFLAC dated June 2022 was presented and a third letter dated July 2022 which stated CTFPD had terminated him from the policy. He questioned the conflict of his employment dates amongst the letters he had received; AFLAC states he was terminated July 2022, yet the letter from D/C Radtke states he will be terminated September 15th.

Chief Panega confirmed a leave of absence was granted for April, May and June. He questioned FF/PM Segert as to why no communication has been made since June 30th to return to work. Chief Panega added several phone conversations had taken place over the last few months with FF/PM Segert to discuss the amount of money owed to the District for AFLAC deductions during his absence. The deductions would be paid back if two shifts were worked and each phone call FF/PM Segert responded he could write the District a check, never indicating he would return to work part-time. Chief Panega reiterated he wants FF/PM Segert to return to work, not to see him resign or be terminated.

Secretary Claus clarified the District terminated FF/PM Segert from the AFLAC policy in July 2022 as instructed by the AFLAC Representative. This allowed FF/PM Segert to opt out of his policy outside of open enrollment as he requested. To date, FF/PM Segert owes the District \$362.88 for deductions paid for by CTFPD during his absence. A letter has been submitted to AFLAC for a refund of April, May and June deductions but no reply has been received as of yet. If a refund is given, the balance owed by FF/PM Segert is \$51.84.

FF/PM Segert cited he is unable to turn in a part-time schedule due to his full-time job, family commitments and lack of time. He submitted a letter of resignation to Trustees effective immediately. Chief Panega asked him to take the letter of resignation back and return to work. FF/PM Segert refused. Trustee Miller stated he did not want FF/PM Segert to leave on bad terms but if he insisted on resigning he should contact Secretary Claus for the spreadsheet confirming the balance owed to the District for AFLAC deductions during his absence and have the balance paid in the next thirty (30) days. FF/PM Segert stated he understood and would be in contact with Secretary Claus for a copy of the spreadsheet to confirm the amount owed to the District.

October Meeting: Trustee Miller stated the next District Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, October 17th due to the Columbus Day holiday.

Closed Session: **Personnel** - Motion to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing personnel at 7:44 pm by Trustee Miller. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Motion to come out of Closed Session at 8:20 pm by Trustee Miller. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried. (2-yes, 0-no, 1-absent)

Trustee Miller stated Closed Session discussion was regarding personnel/staffing issues. District Trustees have directed the Chiefs to discuss staffing options. No additional action was taken.

Motion to Adjourn the September 12, 2022 meeting at 8:21 PM by Trustee Miller. Second Trustee Peterlin. Motion carried.