



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2024

Chairman Steve Fox called the meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 7:00 p.m. at 32905 Cascade View Dr. Station 51 and via Zoom video conferencing. Commissioner Fox, Commissioner Geiger and Commissioner Chase were present. Chief Johnson, Deputy Chief Fulcher and District Secretary, Cathy Barth, were present. Members of the public were in attendance.

Additions to Agenda – None.

Public/Staff Comments – No comments.

Consent Agenda -

Approval of Minutes for April 8, 2024

Approval of Minutes for April 22, 2024

Approval of Payroll May 2024 = \$186,348.70

Approval of Expense Fund Vouchers #240501001 - #240501042 May 2024 = \$55,285.94

Voucher #240501020 deleted.

Approval of Capital Projects Fund Vouchers #240502001 - #240502001 May 2024= \$18,328.80

A motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

Chief's Report – See attached.

Discussion was held regarding the annexation of properties in the Reiner Road area, the number of petitions and how they would be presented. The question was raised as to how many properties still exist in “no man’s land” areas just outside of our borders and if it would be possible to get a general idea of the number of properties. Chief Johnson replied that he would obtain that information.

Also discussed was the fact that the proposed shooting range is located just outside of our jurisdiction. Chief Johnson informed the Commissioners that the County and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), plan to annex the range into the Fire District. Discussed was the fact that the property is County owned so therefore not a taxable parcel, and the possibility of charging an in lieu of taxes fee. Commissioner Fox asked if the District would gain some DNR land. Chief Johnson replied yes, city property and DNR lands.

Reports - No questions.

Commissioner Chase asked for an update on the illegal bonfire issue in the Cedar Ponds area. Chief Johnson replied that the issue is now being dealt with by law enforcement.

Old Business –

Open Issues/Actions – No new actions were added.

New Business –

Resolution 2024-02- Surplus property

Commissioner Fox made a motion. Commissioner Fox amended his motion to approve Chief Johnson to surplus the failed hoses and to correct the resolution number on exhibit A to 2024 - 2, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously.



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Skagit Valley College Agreement -

Commissioner Chase asked if the insurance question would be answered in the document prior to providing it to the College. Chief Johnson replied that he would add Cities Insurance Association of Washington (CIAW) to the document.

Commissioner Geiger inquired about vaccination requirements. Chief Johnson said that the college typically has a very stringent vaccination policy and requires students to be vaccinated prior to enrollment in the program.

A motion to authorize the Chief to sign the document was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Chase, and passed unanimously.

Firefighter Retirement/Replacement Discussion -

Chief Johnson discussed the retirement of Firefighter Chris Shroy with the Commissioners and his plans to fill the position.

Chief Johnson asked for permission to hire a candidate from the list most recently utilized to fill the last three positions.

The Commissioners discussed the candidate list and whether it would be too old to utilize at this point. Chief Johnson responded that the list was just over three months old. Also discussed was whether the Chief would open the position up to new applicants if he does not find a viable candidate on the current list. The Chief stated that he would only be looking at the first three candidates. If he found that those candidates were no longer interested or unavailable, he would then open it up to new applicants.

Commissioner Geiger inquired about potential budget implications if personnel who announce their intent to retire change their minds and remain on the job. Chief Johnson reported that the budget impact for 2024 would be minimal, due to the two unfilled FF/Medic positions but if the employee remained into 2025, it would have to be addressed in the 2025 budget process.

The Commissioners agreed that Chief Johnson be authorized to review the list and pick a candidate.

Commissioner Comments –

Commissioner Fox expressed his thanks to the staff for hosting the Sno-Isle Commissioner meeting at the station. He received very positive comments about the food as well as the Station. He thanked the staff for making calls every day.

Commissioner Geiger stated that he was sad to see valuable members of the District leaving. They have offered a lot over the years. He extended his appreciation to them. He also stated his appreciation to Chief Johnson for working toward hiring a new Firefighter so quickly.

Adjourn - Being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Fox, seconded by Commissioner Geiger, and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Cathy Barth
District Secretary