

SKAGIT COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 17
Regular Commissioners Meeting
(minutes pending approval)

November 8, 2020

Commissioner Margeson called the **Regular Fire Commissioners** meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Present: Commissioners Murphy, Wertheimer, Chief Snell, Assistant Chief Enos, Treasurer Davelaar, Secretary Kankaala, Captain Tom Fouts, Anacortes Fire Chief Harris

The minutes of October 11, 2021 were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning October Operating Fund cash balance was \$76,675.45; beginning October General Investment Fund Balance was \$12,041.79; beginning October Capital Fund cash balance was \$136,644.83; beginning October Capital Investment Fund balance was \$34,019.74; grand total is \$259,381.81.

Be it resolved by the governing body of the taxing district 17, that an increase in the regular property tax levy is hereby authorized for the levy to be collected in the 2022 tax year. The dollar amount of the increase over the actual levy amount from the previous year shall be \$3,053.00, which is a percentage increase of 1.776% from the previous year. **This will be Resolution 445.**

October expenses were \$4,170.85. October payroll was \$3,680.11. October VFF stipends were \$970.00. Grand total of \$8,920.96 for October expenditures.

The following vouchers were approved for payment:

- Voucher Numbers, 11-001 through 11-005: Total \$3,762.60.
- Electronic Payments:
 1. LD-11-001 through LD-11-007: Total \$390.98
 2. OS-11-001 through OS-11-003: Total \$31.79
 3. LP-11-001: Total \$85.48
- Payroll Voucher Payments, 11-01 through 11-06: Total \$3,680.11.
- Skagit County Auditor charge for services for 2022 will be \$3,872.15; quarterly equivalent: \$968.

October revenue included \$52,513.87 in taxes collected, and \$0.82 in interest. Total October revenue was \$52,514.69.

District 17 Commissioners reviewed and approved the Treasurer's Report, Invoices, and firefighter stipends at their November 8, 2021 public meeting. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, and Commissioner Wertheimer seconded; motion was approved unanimously.

Open: none

Chief's Report: See [attached report](#) for a list of drills and responses.

- Matt Enos, Assistant Chief, will be resigning from GIFD. The District 17 fire commissioners want to take the time to thank Matt Enos for his service. This will be **Resolution 447**
- Paul Beudet's application has been approved by the District 17 commissioners.

Unfinished Business:

- **Marine Unit-** Chief Harris, from Anacortes, expressed interest in keeping Marine 1717 in service in West Skagit. Chairman Wertheimer made a motion to authorize Chief Snell and Chief Harris, from Anacortes, to negotiate the sale/transfer of Marine Unit 1717 to AFD. This will be **Resolution 446.**
- **Recruiting brochure and website update-** Chairman Wertheimer and Chief Snell are working on a brochure, expressing the need for new volunteers to join the Guemes Island Fire Department, to distribute to residents of District 17. The Guemes Island Fire Department website will also be updated to highlight the volunteer needs of the department.
- **Review Strategic Plan-** see attached. The District 17 commissioners have identified three top strategic priorities for the next fifteen years. The first, is to ensure that the Guemes Island Fire Department has the resources and ongoing support to keep its mission to protect life, environment, and property on Guemes Island. The second is to ensure that GIFD has the equipment, facilities, training protocols, and paid and volunteer personnel required to achieve the goal of providing timely and effective responses to the residents and visitors of Guemes Island. The third priority is to promote awareness of the Guemes Island Fire Department, its services and its needs, in order to recruit, train, and retain a core of volunteers and EMTs that is sufficient to meet the fire and safety of the people, structures, and environment of Guemes Island. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to make these three topics priorities, regarding the strategic plan. The motion passed. This will be **Resolution 448.**
- **Grant Writing Training Update-** Chief Snell and Chairman Wertheimer attended a grant writing workshop and have come up with a plan to reach out to businesses around Skagit for contributions for the fire department. GIFD will also be looking into other grants, such as HR3728, via FEMA, that is currently pending in Congress. HR3728 is of interest because it provides funding for infrastructure and the rebuilding of fire department facilities.
- **Fire Academy-** District 17 is planning to conduct a fire academy on the island.

New Business:

- **Staff Changes and Compensation-** The District 17 commissioners, treasurer, and fire chief will be looking at different staff and compensation scenarios, regarding next year's budget.
- **Thrive Membership** District 17 will be canceling the Thrive membership.

The November 8, 2021 commissioner meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

The **next regular meeting** will be December 13, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

The next resolution will be 449.

Submitted by Eric Kankaala, Secretary

Skagit County Fire District 17
Chairman