

BROOKLYN FIRE & EMS DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES 8/19/2020

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Mark O'Brien. Members present were John Marx, Kim Gruebling, and Jim Lunde. Member Brit Springer was present via online video conference. Also present were Mason Barber and Dan Dean. Sarah Andrisevic was present via online video conference.

Motion: Gruebling/Lunde to approve minutes of 7/15/2020 meeting as written. Motion carried.

No Public Comments

Brit Springer asked the board who approved the \$3 per hour hazard pay increase for EMS personnel and also how long will it be in effect? EMS Director Dean said the EMS officers approved the increase during one of their EMS meetings; it was not discussed with the board at the time because the board had not held a district meeting since February, due to COVID. Dean also said the officers discuss the hazard pay at each meeting and so far no end date has been decided. Brit Springer stated according to the district agreement, the board should have had the opportunity to approve the hazard pay as this was in breach of the district agreement. Kim Gruebling recommended the board retroactively approve the \$3 increase at the next board meeting. Brit Springer asked the district secretary if the hazard pay could be broken out on the financials.

John Marx spoke about the proposed changes to the district agreement. The fire department personnel would choose the fire chief and recommend that person to the board, and if the board approves it, they would approve it as a permanent position, and remove the 2 year term provision. The board has authority to remove the fire chief with or without cause. Brit Springer asked if the district is legally required to have the position posted publicly. John Marx stated to the district agreement requires the board to use the system in place for nomination of the fire chief, where the fire department recommends their choice to the board.

John Marx will amend the district agreement to include proposed changes and add additional language for the annual joint municipality meeting "or send a representative authorized to act on their behalf."

Motion: Marx/Gruebling to approve changes made to the district agreement and to send to the municipalities and request them to approve the changes at their next available municipal meeting. Springer opposed. Motion carried.

Motion: Marx/Lunde to table vote on fire department 2021 budget until the district's September meeting. Motion carried.

Motion: Marx/Gruebling to table vote on EMS department 2021 budget until the district's September meeting. Motion carried.

Chief Barber reported the department had 14 calls during July, 4 were mutual aid. The new fire engine started production at the beginning of August. The electronic door system had a critical error and will probably need to be updated/replaced soon.

EMS Director Dean reported the department had a total of 150 calls through the date of this meeting and the department has transported 6 likely cases of COVID, The station was also a host site for first responder testing for COVID.

John Marx provided out a report that shows a summary of the type of calls the department responds to in and out of the District for the July.

The District Secretary handed out July financials. EMS salaries are getting close to the budget amount, due to hazard pay and the station being staffed almost full time. The board will need to approve any amounts that go over budget. The district secretary will provide an update at the next board meeting.

Next meeting will be September 9, 2020.

Motion: O'Brien/Gruebling to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Motion carried.