

Port Ewen Fire Commissioners Meeting

Date: October 15th, 2024

Location: Port Ewen Fire Department Headquarters

Roll Call (X = Present)

X 5yr Michelle Spinnenweber

X 4yr Scott Sammons

X 3yr Roger Boughton

X 2yr Shannon Harris

X 1yr William McNamara

X Sec'y Mike Dauner

X Treas. Wendy Trojak

X Chief Clark R. Mains

X Asst. Mike Lange

___ Asst. Joseph Mains

___ Asst. Frank White Jr.

Meeting was called to order by: Commissioner Sammons at 20:00 hours.

At this time the Board opened the Public Hearing on the Proposed 2024 Port Ewen Fire District Budget. Several residents were present and Cathy Larson asked the board questions pertaining to how the district raises their funds for the budget and inquired about taxable assessed value for each parcel and where the district covered. Treasurer Trojak provided an overview of the questions asked and Commissioner Harris answered to the matters concerning assessments. Ms. Larson stated it was too bad more residents did not show up.

At 20:00hrs Chairman Sammons closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting with the Pledge to the Flag.

District Vouchers were presented and were audited by the Commissioners in attendance.

Unfinished Business:

Commissioner Spinnenweber:

1. Reviewed bills given to the board from Delaware Engineering regarding roadway construction and design and found duplicate charges. She provided members of the board copies of correspondence to review on the charges and explained all. Commissioner Spinnenweber recommended holding payment to Delaware Engineering until the matter can be addressed. The work was discussed as well as the committees and past board's involvement in authorizing work to be performed. Commissioner Harris addressed she would like to break out redesign work from the bills and address. She stated if Delaware Engineering on their own took initiative for redesign of the firehouse project and if not authorized by the committee and district it should not be paid. Discussion continued and the board agreed to incorporate Commissioner Harris' comments into Commissioner Spinnenweber's documents and present to Delaware Engineering asking them to address the matters of the disputed charges on recent bills. Commissioner Sammons requested a copy of the correspondence go to Chief Mains as he is the Chair of the Firehouse Committee.

Commissioner Sammons:

1. Addressed a motion to exceed the state tax cap and approve the budget. Commissioner Sammons stated that the budget presented does not anticipate to exceed the cap however he wished to pass a motion to exceed. **A motion was made by Commissioner Sammons, 2nd Commissioner Spinnenweber to approve to override the real property tax cap for the 2025 budget to permit an annual real property tax levy that will exceed the real property tax cap with an increase in said tax levy over the two (2%) percent limit.**
Vote: Commissioners Sammons, McNamara, Boughton, Spinnenweber – Yes. Commissioner Harris – Abstain. Motion passed.
2. **A motion was made by Commissioner Harris, 2nd Commissioner Boughton to approve the final budget for the Port Ewen Fire District for 2025 in the amount of \$864,831.25 with \$853,831.25 to be raised by real property taxes. 5ok motion carried.**

New Business:

Commissioner McNamara:

1. Advised that double doors at hall entrance and exit door by hall bathrooms do not close properly. Commissioner Spinnenweber will look into the matter.

Permission for Headquarters Hall Usage:

1. Liz Pitt requested use of Headquarters Hall on November 30th – no objection from the board.

Public Comment:

- None

Motion to adjourn made at 20:24 by Commissioner Boughton, 2nd Commissioner Harris. 5ok motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Dauner
District Secretary

Attachments:

1. Treasurer Report October 15th 2024
2. 2025 Approved Fire District Budget
3. Commissioner Spinnenweber Correspondence on Delaware Engineering invoices