

Bigfork Fire District Trustee Meeting

November 28th, 2017

Trustees: Zack Anderson, Andrew Sliter, Dan Elwell

Guests: Chief Mark Thiry, Jeremy Patton, Cindy Norred, Tracey Gembala,

Cameron Bradley, Chany Ockert, Tara Hoveland

Opened at 17:30

1. **General Public Comment**—None
2. **Review/Approval of meeting minutes November 1st, 2017**— Elwell (1st), Sliter (2nd) all in favor, none opposed
3. **Review/Approval of Purchase Orders**— None to approve
4. **Review Reconciliation of Financial Statements and Bills Paid**—Sliter questioned CIP fund, money budgeted, if one payment or month to month. Cindy explained that the board would approve to move the money to Fund#7254 towards the end of the budget year to make sure all the money was in general fund before transferring over.
5. **Fire Chief Report**—See attached.
6. **Apparatus Committee Report** – There have been no meetings or discussions about 342. District only has one payment on ladder truck, Chief Thiry explained original the goal was to eliminate the debt, the board will have to decide to continue to sell. Elwell questioned about the fire rating if the district did sell, ISO will we lose that credit? Chief Thiry explained they are other ways to get the ISO up. Zack asked about the operation of the truck. Chief Thiry explained the operation of the truck is not a problem, he could train, the issue is where it can go, it can't get to about 80% of the district. 342 still on the market. Anderson wants to continue to try to sell. Board wants committee to continue.
7. **Old Business**
 - A. **Mill Levy Process Update**—Chief Thiry presented board with drafts (attached). Discussion about putting it out to the public, Chamber news, brochure, Rotary Club, Friends of Bigfork Fire, post in paper. Board understand that there will be a cost. Need to go to town hall meetings, add to website, Facebook. January is start date, it will be on May ballot. The district has never had a voted increase. The board agreed they will need to have a plan of contingences if the levy does not pass. Tara Hoveland had a question as to, why more money needed? Chief Mark Thiry explained we could not sustain this operation the way it is. Board explained they had taken over the ambulance back in 2010, last few years increase better service 24/7 Advance Life Support-Paramedics, wages, replacement of apparatus and equipment. District had to cut things in the budget this year. Volunteer is down, trainings and time. Our call volume is

up. Tara Hoveland is with Community Foundation for Better Bigfork group 501c3, the reason she was here was to discuss the Mill Levy Increase, her group is talking about doing a levy for the parking lot and maybe a maintenance district for Bigfork. Discussion about compassing the levies together possible. Chany is a non-profit consultant helping. Board will add them on next months agenda for further discussion.

New Business

- A. Transition S.A. to part-time status from Volunteer:** As of December 16th, Seth has been taking shifts. Sliter (1st), Elwell (2nd), all in favor, none opposed
- B. December Board meeting date:** Board will meet still on December 26th, 2017.

8. **General Public Comment**— Parade down town on Saturday 6:30

10. **Motion to Adjourn**— Sliter (1st), Elwell (2nd), all in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 18.36

Minutes Approved: _____, Chairman -Zack Anderson

_____, Recorder-Jeremy Patton