

King County Fire Protection District No. 27

Minutes

A Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 27 was held on March 30, 2023, at Station 152 located at 4301-334th Place SE, Fall City, Washington, 98024. The meeting was also available remotely with online video and audio conferencing.

Chairman Meredith called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman Daniel Meredith
Commissioner Lilly Hansen – arrived 5:02
Commissioner Kristopher Belfield
Chief Brian Culp
Secretary Melinda Wall – Absent

In Attendance:

Captain Patrick LeDoux
FF Marcus Noble
Dave Hart

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Public Comment Period

Dave Hart commented on the Fire Levy Cost to Home worksheet and stated that the increase request was reasonable.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2023 Ballot Measure / Future Revenue Sources

Commissioner Belfield reviewed the updated 5-year Draft Budget Projections with the following changes:

- Levy rate request of \$1.50.
- Projected AV; 2024 (-10%), 2025 (-2%), 2026 +1.25%, 2027 +1.5%, 2028 +1.5%.
- New Construction; 2024 – 3 Million, Years 2025-2028 – 5 Million each year.
- M&O levy would not be collected in 2024.
- Facilities and Equipment Maintenance Reserve line item added with \$30,000 earmarked annually.
- Apparatus Reserve \$80,000 earmarked annually. In 2026 increasing to \$100,000.
- Includes the hiring of 13th Firefighter in alignment with the District's strategic plan.

Fire Levy cost to Home valued at \$750,000 was provided to the Board. The spreadsheet showed an estimated monthly increase of \$16.26 in the fire levy for 2024, and a slight decrease in 2025, and monthly increases of between \$1.03 - \$1.27 in years 2026-2028.

WA State LOCAL Financial rate models for 5, 7, and 10-year schedules were provided to the Board. The estimated interest rates on the high end were 3.732%. Financing amounts of \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 were reviewed.

Discussion ensued regarding the engine purchase, the build out timeline of 24-27 months, and financing schedule. Captain LeDoux stated in the past we would put a payment down for the chassis and receive a discount, and then the remaining financing would start when we took delivery of the engine. Commissioner Belfield was concerned with making a large acquisition because of the unknown variables to the revenues. Chairman Meredith conveyed that funds would continue to be earmarked into the reserve accounts to cover a portion of these cost. Chief Culp also discussed other lease financing options that might be favorable for the District.

Chairman Meredith stated that the levy-lid lift appears to be the best option and makes sense for the next couple of years and to continue to earmark funds into the reserve accounts and plan for the engine purchase.

Chairman Meredith recommended a multi-year permanent lid lift of \$1.50 and not collect the M&O levy for 2024. The Board concurred with this direction and the next steps of having Attorney Snure review and advise.

Commissioner Belfield discussed charging transport fees as an additional revenue source. Chief Culp stated that we could explore what it would take to implement and how the fee structure would be set up.



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The Board discussed putting the ballot measure out for the General Election in November. Chief Culp will contact Attorney Brian Snure to discuss the ballot measure proposal with him.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Meredith at 5:48 p.m.

Attest:

Melinda Wall
District Secretary

Melinda Wall

Olivia Meredith
Chairman

Talley H.
Commissioner

Kristopher Belfrage
Commissioner

JS