

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 November 25, 2019 at the Fire Station located at 4301 334th PL SE in Fall City, Washington.

Chairman Meredith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Chairman Meredith
Commissioner Hansen
Commissioner Hollis
Chief Connor
Secretary Wall

In Attendance:

see Attendance List

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

Public Comment Period:

FF Shaun Baker commented about the past roundtable meeting and questioned why the Board did not have any follow up meetings with the firefighters.

Rick Reynolds encouraged the Board to consider opportunities with neighboring departments as a way to save money, meet the needs of the firefighters, and provide the best service possible.

Brandon Bothwell commented about the maintenance and operations levy covering a larger portion of the budget and the need to ask for it every four years; he encouraged the Board to consider raising the lid lift back to a \$1.50.

Public Hearing Testimony:

Chief Connor discussed the statutory levy limits that apply to the regular levy; he reviewed the current tax levy worksheet which indicated an allowable levy of \$1,617,667 for 2020. Chief Connor stated that a higher amount of \$1,620,000 was requested in the tax resolutions because the levy amount had not been finalized when the resolutions were prepared. Chief Connor also discussed the Maintenance and Operations Levy request of \$475,000 and the G.O. Bond levy request of \$161,000.

Chairman Meredith stated that for tonight the Board is considering the District's revenue sources and would be requesting the maximum levy amounts which would still be less than the District's expected 2020 expenses. Chairman Meredith opened the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Rick Reynolds stated that he supported the full tax collection; he also advocated for contracting with EFR.

John Reeves stated that the District has the support of the community; he commented about good financial management, the operational reserves, and looking ahead.

Nora Hightower thanked the Commissioners for their efforts in addressing issues that were identified during the campaign.

After no further comments the Public Hearing was Closed at 7:14 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Collective Bargaining Agreement

Chief Connor reported that some additional questions still need to be answered but he believed they were getting closer to an agreement. He stated that an update would be provided in Executive Session.

2020 Draft Budget

Chief Connor briefed the Board on the revised draft budget; discussion on protective clothing, capital equipment and the collective bargaining agreement ensued. The draft budget showed \$2,282,667 in revenues and \$2,419,700 in expenses.

Financial Projections

Chief Connor discussed the levy cycle beyond 2020 and preparations for the next maintenance and operations levy request. He conveyed that at some point the Board will need to consider restoring the regular levy back up. Chief Connor also indicated that more specific information would be forthcoming in the draft budget and financial projections once the collective bargaining agreement is finished.



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Commissioner Hollis discussed the 2020 election dates and asked about the cost to participate in the special election versus the general election. Further discussion ensued and Chief Connor stated that he would forward the election dates and filing deadlines to the Commissioners.

**KC Emergency Communications PSERN Agreement
Resolution 2019-6 – Approving King County Emergency Radio Communications PSERN Agreement**

The PSERN agreement was e-mailed to the Board after the last meeting; this project will replace the county wide 800 Mhz system and move from an analog system to digital. The agreement has been reviewed by Attorney Snure and Chief Connor recommended approval.

On the Motion of Commissioner Hollis and a second provided by Commissioner Hansen the Board approved Resolution 2019-6 Approving King County Emergency Radio Communication Systems Interlocal PSERN Agreement. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 2019-7 – Allocation of Funds for NORCOM

Chief Connor reported on the 2020 allocation amount which decreased slightly for the District. He also briefed the Board on future cost impacts due to the reduction of the 9-1-1 tax revenues. After further discussion Chief Connor recommended approval.

On the Motion of Commissioner Hollis and a second provided by Commissioner Hansen the Board approved Resolution 2019-7 Allocation of Funds for NORCOM. Motion Carried.

**Resolution 2019-8 – Property Tax Increase Resolution
Resolution 2019-9 – Request for 2020 Tax Levy Collection**

The tax resolutions were provided to the Board for review and approval. The 2020 tax levy request for the regular levy - \$1,620,000, the excess levy request - \$475,000 and \$161,000 for the G.O. Bond levy to facilitate the bond payments for 2020. After further discussion Chief Connor recommended approval.

On the Motion of Chairman Meredith and a second provided by Commissioner Hollis the Board approved Resolution 2019-8, Property Tax Increase Resolution and Resolution 2019-9 Submitting a Levy Request for \$2,256,000 for the Year 2020. Motion Carried.

OTHER:

Chief Connor updated the Board on the District's hiring lists in light EFR's lateral hiring.

D27 and EFR Agreement for Battalion Chief Services

Chief Connor reported that the BC agreement expires at the end of this year. He recommended renewing the agreement; the Board will discuss further and take it up for action at the next meeting.

A short break was taken at 7:42 p.m. to sign documents.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:


The Board convened into an Executive Session with Chief Connor at 7:45 p.m. in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(1)(g); to review the performance of a public employee; and RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) to plan the strategy or position to be taken by the governing body during the course of collective bargaining. The Executive Session was expected to last 20 minutes. At 8:05 p.m. an additional 18 minutes was needed to finish the discussion. At 8:23 p.m. the Executive Session was closed and the Special meeting was opened.

Adjournment:

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Meredith at 8:23 p.m.

Attest:
Melinda Wall
District Secretary




Chairman


Commissioner


Commissioner



King County Fire Protection District No. 27
Board of Commissioners Meeting

Attendee List – November 25, 2019

BC Craig Hooper - EFR
Lt. Patrick LeDoux
FF Steve Bandy
FF Jordan Jessen
FF Josh Yancey
FF Shaun Baker
FF Aaron Hansen
FF Michael Larson
Brandon Bothwell
Danielle Bothwell
Terri Divers
Noel Eby
Dave Hart
Nora Hightower
Nancy Moore
John Reeves
Rick Reynolds

*may not be a complete list