

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS AREA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
HELD
October 15, 2018

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Steamboat Springs Area Fire Protection District (referred to hereafter as "Board") was convened on Monday, the 15th day of October 2018, at 5:00 P.M., at Centennial Hall, 124 10th Street, Citizens Hall, Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

ATTENDANCE

Directors in Attendance Were:

Eric Schmidt, President/Chairman
Karl Gills, Vice-President
Tom Ihrig, Treasurer
Randall Hannaway, Secretary

Also in Attendance Were:

Mel Stewart, Fire Chief; City of Steamboat Springs Fire Department
Gary Suiter, City Manager; City of Steamboat Springs
Chelsey Green; Pinnacle Consulting Group, Inc.
Dino Ross, Esq.; Ireland, Stapleton, Pryor & Pascoe, P.C.

Community Members per Attached Sign-In Sheet

Chairman Schmidt called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Chairman Schmidt declared that a quorum of the Board was present, with four of four Board members in attendance. There is one vacancy on the Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Agenda: A proposed agenda was distributed for the Board's review and approval. Following review and discussion, the agenda was approved, as amended, changing the order in which matters would be presented and discussed.

Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest: Chairman Schmidt inquired whether there were any conflicts to disclose by Board members present, which have not already been adequately disclosed. There were no such conflicts to disclose.

Directors Item's: Director Gills noted that members of the community have expressed concerns that activities of the Board of Directors are not as visible or publicized compared to the activities of City Council and requested a discussion at the next meeting of the Board to address those concerns. Director Gills also noted that arrangements were made to televise this evening's public hearing.

LEGAL MATTERS

Conduct Public Hearing on Potential Inclusion of Area within the City of Steamboat Springs and Related Requests by Landowners to Exclude their Properties from the Inclusion Process pursuant to CRS 32-1-401(2)& (3).

Chairman Schmidt formally opened the public hearing at 5:03 p.m.

Presentation by City and District representatives on background and purpose of potential inclusion of area within the City into the District and transfer of responsibility for Fire/Emergency Services from the City to the District: Chairman Schmidt introduced members of the Board, Fire Chief Mel Stewart, Attorney Ross, Ms. Green, and City Manager Gary Suiter. Chairman Schmidt provided an overview of recent Board activity regarding the inclusion process thus far and explained the structure of the District/City inclusion process.

Attorney Ross elaborated on the inclusion process, emphasizing that the Pre-Inclusion Agreement entered into by the parties and this evening's public hearing are the beginning of the process which, if successful, will lead to an election in May 2019.

Chief Stewart provided a brief history of the relationship between the City and the District and progression of the capability of the Fire/EMS service, review of the fire department's strategic plan, and the benefits of including property located within the City into the District.

Director Hanaway discussed the benefits to the citizens of including the City into the District.

Director Gills provided an overview of the proposed budget including revenue and expense projections based on

an 8.000 mill levy versus the previously noted 9.000 mills.

Director Ihrig provided an overview of other service options discussed amongst the parties and the reasons why the District and the City feel inclusion of the City into the District is the most viable option.

Public Comments: Director Schmidt moderated the public comment. Each person was allowed up to three minutes to address the board and a summary of those comments is as follows:

Tom Sharp - 60 Highland Circle; Is a commercial property owner. The 9 mil increase in taxes is twenty percent. The material amend to service plan requires control of review entity. The suggestion that an election be held in May 19 or November 19 is "offensive". Graph of time spent by personnel; ambulance has highest volume - full ambulance with out paying.

Curt Weiss - 940 Crawford; applauded the Board for serving and the great work of the department. He stated the cost of his house in August was \$750,000 if the 9 mills is passed he will see an upwards of \$30,000 per year increase in taxes. Fire/EMS services need to stay in the City's General Fund. "Districts are a way to expand government with limited oversight.

Anne Small - 1220 Timothy Drive; sales tax relies on one mechanism of revenue. She is in support of the property tax; time to diversify and pay for ourselves.

Matt Neman - 226 Hill Street; experience in emergency services. He went through the merger in 2002 and supports the proposal.

Rosanne; Get property taxes, people do not like dedicated property tax. She prefers a budget and asses what the district needs. She questioned who is going to come to the voters; who is doing what; why would we duplicate staff; stay in City and get property tax.

Bob Weiss - representing property owners; Questioned the impact on residential and commercial property taxes. He believes this is the largest tax increase in the city history. He expressed concern this process has not had

public scrutiny, or enough consideration or conversation.

Mike Koshman; urged that the item go to a vote.

Bill Pass - 2080 Village Dr.; stated the numbers appear to be inconsistent with City Budget; voter support starts with a credible budget; clearly told what new station will cost. Credibility and consistency.

Trent Shmiely; concern about how process between the City and the District worked word needs to get out on costs.

Clint Lockhart; Seems like trying to sneak this through district; if city wants property tax, then they should ask for it. City has capability and all aspects of the need of the whole city; surplus funds not just spent on Fire District.

Pacil Stikner; really should be City and District presentation. Need to combine the process, describe what Board would look like in the future - not just totally separate.

Ron Pearl; commercial and residential property owner. City needs to quit putting burden on commercial property owners.

Steven Cosgold; Many tenants in town, real-estate taxes run at 40 - 45% of total property. Very unfortunate for tenants, smaller mill levy; try and get something interim until something happens with Gallagher.

Walter Frank; 9 mil really scares commercial owners; More public input is needed.

Jamie McQuaid; fully supports; need to find funding but become more creative with it; Really hard to stay and do business in this town.

Rob Pearlman; CEO/COO of Ski area. No one disputing the need, just sneaky/unclear path; right to 9 mills equals twenty percent increase; feels rushed and sneaky; won't have anyone to support.

Tom Schultz; Questions addressed in process; more resources; just matter of how to fund.

Consider whether requests by landowners to exclude their properties from the inclusion process should be referred to the Routt County Board of County Commissioners pursuant to CRS 32-1-401(3) and 32-1-203(3.5) Consider adoption of Resolution 2018-10-4 referring landowner requests to exclude property to the Routt County Board of County Commissioners:

Following review and discussion, upon motion duly made by Director Ihrig, seconded by Director Gills and, upon vote, unanimously carried, the Board adopted Resolution 2018-10-04, Referring the Exclusion Petitions to the Routt County Board of County Commissioners and Seeking a Determination of Whether the Possible Inclusion of the Area within the City of Steamboat Springs Constitutes a Material Modification of the District's Service Plan.

Consider adoption of Resolution Regarding Properties Seeking Exclusion; Resolution for Inclusion of Real Property - City of Steamboat Springs; approval of Board Order Approving Inclusion of Property: . Following review and discussion, upon motion duly made by Director Hannaway, seconded by Director Ihrig, upon vote, unanimously carried this item was tabled pending action by the Board of County Commissioners on referral.

Consider closing or continuing public hearing: Following review and discussion, upon motion duly made by Director Gills, seconded by Director Hannaway, upon vote, unanimously carried, the Board determined to continue the public hearing to its November 19, 2018 regular meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business brought before the Board for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion duly made by Director Ihrig, seconded by Director Hannaway and, upon vote, unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____
Secretary for the Meeting

THESE MINUTES ARE APPROVED AS THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2018 REGULAR MEETING OF THE STEAMBOAT SPRINGS AREA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS, BY THE DIRECTORS SIGNING BELOW:

Eric Schmidt

Tom Ihrig

Randall Hannaway

Karl Gills

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