

Brodhead Fire Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 18, 2024
5:00 P.M.
Brodhead Fire Station

1. Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 5:21 PM

2. Roll Call to determine if a quorum is present.

Present - S. Hazeltine, P. Faessler, N. Burkhalter, B. Gritzmaker, B. Moon, A. Schneider

3. Motion to deviate from the order of the agenda if necessary.

Motion made by A. Schneider to approve the agenda as presented

Seconded by N. Burkhalter

Motion Passed

4. Public Appearances: This is the public's opportunity to speak.

Each citizen is allowed 10 minutes to address the Commission.

5. New Business :

a. 2025 Budget Discussion/Possible Action:

1st Assistant Chief Pinnow discussed the 2025 proposed budget line by line with corrections made as presented. Corrections to the following line items from the preliminary budget that was presented 8/2/2024. Small t's located in margin are trend analysis from the past 4 to 5 years. (linear trendline)

Income:

2% dues \$22,736.00 reduced to \$20,000.00

District Funding \$446,800.00 to \$460,650.00 starting amount was different from what Adm. Assistant at the time of meeting.

Paid on Premise \$20,000.00 reduced to \$8,500.00

Total Budget \$499,150.00

Expenses:

2% Expenses will reflect \$20,000.00 from income

Snow removal \$765.00 was removed. City of Brodhead will be plowing BFD parking lot

Tech, Subscriptions, Membership \$8,000.00 to include new website

Paid on Premise with EMS \$54,857.00 reduced to \$40,000.00

WRS \$9,750.00 increased to \$10,020.00

Payroll expenses \$13,666.00 increased \$13,974.00

After updates to line items **2025 Total Budget \$499,159.00**

Capital Account Funding:

2nd Assistant Chief R. Pinnow explained the reason behind having a capital account for future purchases. Costs in the capital account are large recurring item costs and the expense spread out over several years to have money to purchase at the time instead of borrowing the money. Such items but not limited to SCBA bottles, SCBA harness,

Turn-out gear (helmet, coat, bunker, boots), Radio & Pagers, Hose & Nozzles, Breathing Air Compressor.

1st Assistant Chief Pinnow concern on personnel was BFD was heading down path with funding in place when merger didn't take place. Still a need for that funding to be ready for hiring of personnel in the near future. **Days of volunteer fire are over.** During the day during the week staffing is very limited to several FF that are over the age of 60 plus a couple of new FF. Need to be in contact with EMS and their feelings on revisiting merger possibilities. If EMS was staffed it would be able to get the ambulance out the door with fewer calls to fire. Would rather see a steady increase in budget then drop and have to adjust the following year.

S. Hazeltine mentioned BFD would need at least \$300,000 available to hire part-time firefighters. Cost factor spending for the protection you are receiving. Several different models of part-time firefighters. To have 3 people on staff at a time would cost roughly \$35,000 a month.

R. Harding mentioned even if you look for staffing from BTC you would be fighting over the same students.

Discussion looking at future consolidation with a sharing of a chief to be cost effective.

*S. Hazeltine is there a motion

A. Schneider made the motion to approve the 2025 budget of \$499,150.00 as presented

Seconded by P. Faessler

All in favor Six Ayes

Motion Carried

Discussion on District Funding Assessment and reducing the amount by moving money from Capital Fund to District Funding.

B. Gritmaker has no issue with the budget amount but would like to see a reduction of the District Funding Assessment from Capital Fund. P. Faessler, N. Burkhalter and R. Moon all suggested different amounts from the Capital Fund.

*B. Gritmaker made the motion to reduce the District Funding Assessment by \$100,000.00 making District Funding Total Assessment \$360,650.00.

A.Schneider seconded

B. Gritmaker asked for a roll call vote

Roll Call: R. Moon, P. Faessler, B. Gritmaker, A. Schneider, N. Burkhalter in favor

S. Hazeltine not in favor

Motion carried on a 5-1 vote in favor

6. Commission Comments or Questions:

This is the Commission's opportunity to speak about anything that is not a specific agenda item.

Nothing at this time

7. Motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn made by N. Burkhalter at 6:34 PM

Meeting adjourned