

Moose Lake Area Fire Protection District
600 Hwy 73
Moose Lake Minnesota 55767
Official Minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Fire District
6:30pm Tuesday, April 9, 2024 Fire Hall Conference Room

The meeting opened by Chair Steve Aldrin at 6:30 pm. Fire District Board Members present were Steve Aldrin, Guyal Nelson, Walt Lower and Jon Lund. Jeff Kirk was absent. Others in attendance were Jim Michalski, Corey Hibke, Joyce Hibke, Steve Trenhaile, Dan Hattenberger, Tony Bahtkari, recording secretary, Cathleen Troskey and two visitors, Phil Etner and Ellissa Owens.

Agenda: A motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Lower to approve the Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: A motion by Lund and seconded by Lower to approve the February Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Nelson reviewed the Treasurer's Report and Check Register. A Motion was made by Lower and seconded by Lund to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Public Works Superintendent, Phil Etner said he looked into splitting power off of the end of the building and seeing what the usage would be and in order to do that he got a quote from Region Electric of \$3,709.75 and he believes Fire District received a quote and wondering if there is still a need to splitting utilities. Aldrin said yes. Etner questioned who will pay for the split. Nelson stated the City should. Owens asked is the District asking the City to take on the cost of separating the electric utility or carrying the bill moving forward. Nelson stated for the City to take on the cost moving forward. Owens asked if the Board desires the City to take on the electric utility payment moving forward. Aldrin stated for the law enforcement end of building "yes". Owens asked if the District is willing to cover the cost of the split. Nelson believes the City should pay. Aldrin says it is unfair for the townships to pay for that end of the building electric split. Etner will propose this at the next City Council meeting in May. Etner needs a copy of Nylund Electric quote from the Fire District and he will include both quotes to the City Council meeting in May. Nelson will share quote with Etner. City Administrator Owens stated there is stuff in the lease agreement about modifications to the building and repairs and costs associated with the split and who should cover that. It would be helpful to have representation if going outside the means of this agreement for covering the cost of the modification. It would be helpful to have collaboration from the District. Aldrin does not understand contracts completely and would like to have their attorney look that over. Owens would like Fire District representation at the meeting when it is presented. Aldrin stated yes, that is not a problem.
- Owens also spoke about the office room on the Fire District side and that the City did not include that room with the Carlton County Sheriff's Office Contract. Nelson stated they have a key for that office now. Aldrin questioned Owens if the Sheriff's Department is going to have access to the meeting room in the Fire Hall at all. Owens stated it has not been identified. Only the office space has been identified. Owens questioned if the building should be rekeyed. Owens spoke about the Contract with Sheriff's Department. Nelson spoke about Law Enforcement using the meeting room, bathroom and hallway. Michalski said that if Law

Enforcement wants to use the meeting room area there should be a sign up calendar for that. Nelson believes the front door/hall entering the building for law enforcement should be included in the map and lease agreement with Sheriff's Department. Owens would never itemize that out as it is just common use area. Nelson brought up the impound lot and Owens will look into this more. Owens asked if there was an issue with Sheriff's Department using the impound lot. Michalski and Trenhaile said "no".

- Owens stated as they proceed with the contract with the Sheriff's Office, the current term that is being entertained aligns with the 2029 agreement City has with the Fire District, so the mindset being in 2029 when the bond is paid off and we engage in a new agreement at that time, the city knows that the their financial obligation is 5% of operation costs. That is something that the City would be interested in looking at reimbursement for 5% of that operation cost with the Sheriff moving forward, not in this current agreement, but moving forward. The City wants to align their contract with the Sheriff's Office. Owens asked if the Fire District has determined whether or not there is a desire to pay off the debt early because then that would change when the City contract term to be able to align with that. Aldrin does not know financially if they could pay it off sooner. Nelson asked when will contract with Sheriff's Office going to start? Owens said City is working on Contract and Sheriff's Office is engaging in hiring, and once they know how many deputies they hire, they will be able to give a start date. In a couple weeks Owens will know how many deputies they have added to staff. Contract will be finalized in the next couple months. Start date is dependent on what they get for deputies. Nelson feels right now he will approach the Bank one more time, but do not really see Fire District refinancing. Michalski said guarantee three years. Nelson said Michalski has a good point and they need to think about this. Owens said they just want activities to align. Nelson said to wait on this right now.
- Owens has been talking with entities around the City about National Night Out. The Moose Lake Brewery would like to host National Night Out at the Arena this year and continue to host this for the City. More to come on NNO.
- Trenhaile spoke about Medication Drop Off access if it will continue to be there. Owens will bring this up with the Sheriff's Office to make sure this service is provided. Finger printing services is also very important to have in the City and Owens would like the Sheriff's Office to continue to provide fingerprinting services as well.
- Lund asked about By-Laws and Aldrin spoke that they received some back from the attorney and have not reviewed them yet. Nelson spoke could use some help on reviewing By-Laws.

New Business:

- Nelson made a motion to have Contract with City to be reviewed by Attorney and was seconded by Lund. The motion passed unanimously.

Township Information:

- Windemere Township – No report.
- Silver Township – No report.

Department Report:

- Chief – Michalski ordered gate vales and should solve water hammer issue. Primer motor went out on 446 and was fixed. Pine County has not been paging MLFD for all Windemere calls and that they are paging Sturgeon Lake and Willow River Fire Departments. Tony will contact Pine County Dispatch. Michalski said that we don't need auto aid with Kettle River, but Kettle River needs Moose Lake Fire Department auto aid.

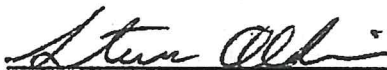
- **Assistant Chief** – Been in touch with Custom Fire as we are within 5 year plan replacing the 2006 rescue truck and within the next two years a truck will need to be purchased.
- **Captain/Training Officer** – Trenhaile stated trainings have been going good the last two months. Thank you to Sandberg's for the cars used for training. Next month there is kitchen fire simulator training. There was one firefighters who is in the Guards and went to Willmar to complete some training and feel that firefighter should be reimbursed for mileage and hotel. All agreed to reimburse that firefighter. Trenhaile stated there are two interviews scheduled for Friday.
- **First Lieutenant** – Hattenberger has no report.
- **Second Lieutenant** – J. Hibke read run report.
- **Relief Association** – No report.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Board Meeting, Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

A motion was made by Nelson and seconded by Lower to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Board Chair
Steve Aldrin



Clerk
Guyal Nelson