

Germantown Hills Fire Protection District
313 Prairie Avenue
Germantown Hills, IL 61548
309-383-4890

November 1, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Germantown Hills Fire Protection District Board:

Present:

Brian Christensen, Treasurer
Kelly Thannum, Secretary

Absent:

Christopher Lee, President

Officers also present:

Chip Wilmot, Fire Chief
Ryan Williamson, Division Chief/Administrator
Mark Shaw, Asst. Chief
Chad Dawson, Asst. Chief
Lonnie Beckwith, Asst. Chief
Jai Windish, Division Chief-EMS

Absent:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call- Brian Christensen called the regular meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and roll call was taken.

2. Approval of Minutes-The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed.

- a) **Regular Meeting of October 4, 2022-**A motion was made by Kelly Thannum to approve the regular meeting minutes from October 4, 2022. The motion was seconded by Brian Christensen. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #1.**

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items and Non-Agenda Items-Ann Sasso updated the board on the GHAA property and the lot the school and village purchased for the pedestrian crossing and park purposes. The village has also purchased the 26-acre parcel along Fandel Road and have started clearing parts of it.

4. Officers Report

Chip Wilmot gave the chief run report and equipment report. November training will be on self-contained breathing apparatus. They have started the process to obtain a permit to perform training burns in the old house across Rt. 116 from the school. They have started coating the roof of the containers.

The ISO visit was on October 25th. They expect the results to take 6 months.

There's no update on the StarCom radio project.

The annual Halloween costume contest was held and there was a great turnout.

Mark Shaw stated they are doing hose testing. Mark received the cost to upgrade the security cameras at the village hall and fire department. Chad Dawson noted the Sheriff may be able to help with some of the cost.

Lonnie Beckwith stated the Santa Claus parade will be held on December 18th and they are proposing to do two routes to cut down on the time.

Jai Windish stated Imagetrend went live on October 3rd. So far everything is going well. He noted they had to add on the faxing service. Jai updated the board on some changes for the new year with GEMT.

Kelly Thannum asked about the capital improvement plan. Chip will get that to the board members.

5. Old Business

- a) **Discussion and possible action regarding purchase of Starcom radio equipment for interoperability with several neighboring departments.**
Chip Wilmot stated this would be deferred and needs to be added to the budget.
- b) **Discussion and possible action regarding additional trustees to the Germantown Fire Protection District Board of Trustees**
Kelly Thannum stated this could be removed from the agenda for now. She noted last year was difficult being new and not being able to talk to someone due to the restrictions.
- c) **Discussion and possible action regarding the tax levy for FY 2023-2024**
Brian Christensen noted the attorney had prepared her recommendations and her position is to step up the levy request since there are not adequate reserves. Brian and Chip recommend for this year to continue to do as we have been doing. They are looking at 4.9% increase and then look at the funds next year.

A motion was made by Brian Christensen to approve the Tax Levy for FY 22-23. The motion was seconded by Kelly Thannum. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #2.**

- d) **Discussion and possible action regarding Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Savings Plan**
Brian Christensen stated he talked to a representative and the fire district is not exempt and will have to apply to the program. They need some employee data put into the system but then the employee's will be notified about the plan and can decide if they are interested.

6. New Business

a) **Discussion and possible action relating to the collection of Foreign Fire Insurance Tax**

Brian Christensen stated there's an insurance tax that some companies have to pay and the fire district gets a portion of it. The check the fire district received was for \$8,160.

b) **Discussion and possible action relating to the separation of EMS and Fire payroll processing.**

Brian Christensen stated ADP doesn't have the ability to separate the EMS and Fire Payrolls. The Fire District can do two separate payrolls, but this would be an additional cost.

7. Human Resources-None

8. Treasurer Report

a) **Presentation of bills and payment of bills**

A motion was made by Brian Christensen to approve the payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Kelly Thannum. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #3.**

b) **Review of Financials**

Brian Christensen reviewed the financials. The board discussed.

9. Secretary Report

a) **Review upcoming key dates, submissions, and annual schedule of activities**

The minutes have been posted to the website. The annual schedule of activities was reviewed.

b) **Review matters to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting**

The items for the next agenda were discussed.

10. Correspondence-None

11. Meeting Schedule-The next meeting is on December 6, 2022, at 6:00 pm.

12. Adjournment-A motion was made by Kelly Thannum to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. The motion was seconded by Brian Christensen. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #4.**

Ann Sasso
Administrative Clerk