

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

**October 4, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

**Germantown Hills Fire Protection District Board:**

**Present:**

Christopher Lee, President  
Brian Christensen, Treasurer  
Kelly Thannum, Secretary

**Absent:**

**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  
Jed Bauman, EMT  
Greg Harman, Firefighter

**Absent:**

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call-** President Christopher Lee called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and roll call was taken.
- 2. Approval of Minutes-**The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed.
  - a) Regular Meeting of September 6, 2022-**A motion was made by Christopher Lee to approve the regular meeting minutes from September 6, 2022. The motion was seconded by Kelly Thannum. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #1.**
- 3. Public Comment on Agenda Items and Non-Agenda Items-**Ann Sasso reported there is a public meeting on October 26<sup>th</sup> at the school to discuss the proposed athletic complex. Also, the farmers market is still going on every Saturday from 9-1 at Germantown Crossing.
- 4. Officers Report**

Chip Wilmot gave the chief run report and equipment report. October training is on hose testing, which will also encompass hydrant operations, pumper operations, hose lines, nozzles, and small appliances. They are preparing for the October 25<sup>th</sup> visit from ISO, the Insurance Service Office. Plans are being finalized for the annual Halloween costume contests, scheduled for October 29<sup>th</sup>.

Lonnie Beckwith stated the building maintenance went well and they did some painting on the shed as well as some inside work.

Kelly Thannum asked about the capital improvement purchase plan document. This is something Chip Wilmot has and will get it to the trustees.

Kelly Thannum asked if there were any regularly scheduled meetings and trainings each month to keep up on things and expectations within the department.

Chip Wilmot noted they have training each month along with Association meetings.

Ryan Williamson stated there have still been some scheduling challenges.

Christopher Lee asked if the extra health benefits have helped with recruiting personnel.

Ryan noted it has not as most are part time staff.

Chad Dawson noted he, Jai and Ryan have been working on getting Imagetrend set up and it went live yesterday, October 3rd. The MTCO fiber will be connected on Friday and there will be a cost increase to the bill.

Mark Shaw noted the October training will be hose testing and he is working on the training schedule. They are also working on how to protect the burn side of the storage containers, so it does not rust and lasts longer.

Mark is putting together a proposal for cameras both for the fire department and the village. The proposal will be at cost, but he does not have the final cost yet. The hope is that the cost will be split between the fire department and village. A question was asked if the Woodford County Sheriff's office could help. This will be checked out.

Jai Windish gave an update on GEMT and sent out an aging report. He noted the district had received the intergovernmental agreement from the State.

## **5. Old Business**

- a) **Discussion and possible action for employee compensation-Brian Christensen** stated with all the additional work that Jai Windish is doing that is beyond the scope of work he was initially hired to do he feels there should be some additional compensation. Jai is taking on much more reporting and now the collections. Despite Jai requesting this not be done, Brian is recommending a 5% bonus payable to Jai on billings collected each quarter.

A motion was made by Brian Christensen to approve a 5% bonus to Jai Windish on the collected billings paid to him each quarter retro back to the fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Christopher Lee. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #2.**

- b) **Discussion and possible action regarding purchase of Starcom radio equipment for interoperability with several neighboring departments.**  
Chip Wilmot is still waiting on finalizing the details of the cost.

- c) **Discussion and possible action regarding additional trustees to the Germantown Fire Protection District Board of Trustees**  
This was discussed at the last meeting. Kelly Thannum noted having more trustees would make it nice to be able to talk to others and stay within the law.

Christopher Lee stated he did not see any issues with keeping the board at three members but asked the board for thoughts. It was noted that finding people to be on the board is a challenge.

Kelly Thannum asked for this to stay on the agenda.

## **6. New Business**

- a) **Discussion and possible action regarding Illinois Secure Choice Retirement Savings Plan**  
Greg Harman was in attendance to discuss this savings plan option. The board discussed. Brian Christensen will check to see if the department is mandated to do this.

A motion was made to Brian Christensen pending verification to start the process if required. The motion was seconded by Christopher Lee. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #3.**

- b) **Discussion and possible action regarding the tax levy for FY 2023-2024**  
Brian Christensen and Chip Wilmot are working on the levy numbers.

## **7. Human Resources-None**

## **8. Treasurer Report**

- a) **Presentation of bills and payment of bills**  
A motion was made by Christopher Lee to approve the payment of the bills. The motion was seconded by Kelly Thannum. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #4.**

- b) **Review of 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 November 1, 2022, at 6:00 pm.

**12. Adjournment-A motion** was made by Christopher Lee to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. The motion was seconded by Brian Christensen. All yeas and no nays. **Motion passed #5.**

Ann Sasso, Administrative Clerk