

Wasatch County Fire Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday November 12, 2019

Meeting held at the Wasatch County Administration Building located at 25 N Main, Heber City.

Those in Attendance:

Spencer Park

Jeff Wade

Steve Farrell

Marilyn Crittenden

Kendall Crittenden

Danny Goode

Mark Nelson Excused

Chief Ernie Giles

BC Gary Sessions

BC Jason Provost

BC Ben Fitzgerald

Fire Marshal Clint Neerings

Fire Warden Troy Morgan

EMS Director Clair Provost

Items of Business to address:

Minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Goode to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2019 fire board meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wade and the motion passed all in favor.

Warrants

The listing of warrants totaled \$229,619.70. This total included the added warrants and the payroll transmittals.

A motion was made by Councilman Goode to approve the warrants as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wade and the motion passed all in favor.

Chief report

Chief Ernie Giles- The meeting minutes are for the public hearing that we had on our impact fees, which were done in a county council meeting. I wasn't sure if they were approved in the council or if we needed to get them approved here for the fire district.

Councilman Farrell- They were already approved in the council meeting.

Councilman Crittenden- They were approved last week

Chief Ernie Giles - I need to set the budget hearing for December 10, 2019 at 6 pm to open and amend the 2019 budget and to set the 2020 budget.

A motion was made by Councilman Goode to set the budget hearing for December 10, 2019 to open and amend the 2019 budget and to set the 2020 budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wade. The motion passed all in favor.

Councilman Farrell – I will be gone on December 10, 2019 for the fireboard meeting so the Vice Chair (Spencer Parks) will need to take my place.

Chief Ernie Giles - Just an update, we have advertised for a marshal and secretary position. The application period ended on Friday. We will be setting up interviews with the hiring committee.

Councilman Crittenden - Why are you hiring for marshal?

Chief Ernie Giles - It is an assistant marshal/ training officer. We have a lot of development going on in Jordanelle basin, so it will aid with that. Also, ESCI wanted us to have a training officer.

Councilman Farrell – Why are we advertising for a secretary?

Chief Ernie Giles - It is actually to replace Clair's secretary that left. We will interview and then we will bring the names on the 10th of December to you.

Councilman Goode- Did you get a lot of applicants?

Chief Ernie Giles – 11 for the secretary and 6 for the marshal. The marshal job requires a lot of certifications and qualifications so that is why there were fewer for that.

Councilman Crittenden - Who is on the interview committee?

Chief Ernie Giles - Myself, the battalion chiefs, David Rowley, Clair and someone from the sheriff office.

Councilman Farrell - Update us on the attorney.

Chief Ernie Giles - I signed the agreement with him a few weeks ago. He was out of town on a family matter, we did visit yesterday and today. He is going through it and looking into some things. There are a few things we need to tune up, but overall, he seems to think it is a pretty decent agreement.

Councilwoman Crittenden - What were his concerns?

Chief Ernie Giles - The impact fee. We discussed the impact fee being a part of the agreement. That was something they did not have in there. Other than that, there are a few issues with the repayment for Extell. Extell is only the developer, MIDA is who I will have to deal with on the tax end to collect property taxes. We have to work through how the district will get the money from MIDA. Whether it is tax based or service based. That is more between MIDA and the district and not so much Extell. MIDA is mentioned a lot in the agreement so that is why we are looking into it now.

Councilwoman Crittenden - Is it Extell's or MIDA's attorneys that have been writing the agreement?

Chief Ernie Giles - It is Extell's attorneys. This agreement is between the district and Extell.

Councilman Farrell - We had an agreement with MIDA from 3 years ago, before Extell came into the picture.

Councilwoman Crittenden- So this new one is with Extell and not MIDA.

Chief Ernie Giles - MIDA has mentioned that they want to be repaid for MIDA on some of these impacts and that is what we are trying to work through. They may have to be part of this agreement. We are still early into it, I hope that by the 10th of next month we will have an agreement to present to you. I want the board to be comfortable with it before I sign anything.

Fire Marshal Report

Fire Marshal Neerings- We have been busy with inspections and training. We did get 2 school buses from PC school district to practice some heavy extrication training and advance our certifications. We have been working with Heber PD and Sheriff's Office for active shooter training. We have been meeting with various entities and departments about the impact fees and their implementation. We met with the developers for the "my city inspector" program that Midway, Heber, Hideout and the county already use. It should be an easy integration where they are all already on board with it. We are hoping to get it implemented by 1/16.

Councilwoman Crittenden – Any information on the recent fires?

Fire Marshal Neerings – The fire on center street, most of the fire was kept to the outside and the damage to the interior was minimal. The investigation is still open, but it looks like it was caused by burned waste that was put into a trash can outside of the home. The page time was 8:06 and they arrived by 8:10 and had control of the fire within 2-3 minutes of arrival. It was a good response, the fire broke through one window in the kitchen and there was minor flame damage on some cabinets and only a little bit of smoke damage in the kitchen area. They got there fast and knocked the fire down fast.

Councilwoman Crittenden- Very responsive, it happened very quick.

Fire Warden Report

Fire Warden Morgan- I have some numbers for our 2019 fire season that I wanted to go over with you guys, there were a total of 138.1 acres burned in Wasatch county, out of that 138 total acres burned:

- Federal acres burned = .48
- State acres burned= 128.32
- County acres burned = 2.91
- City acres burned= 6.3

All in all, it was a very slow season for incorporated/unincorporated lands the majority of our fires fell within state lands. The majority of the fires were caused by human error.

A Motion was made by Councilman Crittenden to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Councilman Parks. The motion passed all in favor.