

Aspen Fire Protection District

420 E Hopkins Avenue • Aspen, CO 81611 • 970-925-5532 • www.aspenfire.com



Board of Directors Special Meeting December 7, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Aspen Fire Protection District met for a special meeting. The meeting was open to the public virtually via Zoom.

Meeting called to order by John at 11:08am. John noted that he was adding public comment to the agenda.

Roll Call:

- Board of Directors Present: John Ward, Denis Murray, Stephen Wertheimer, Michael Buglione (arrived at 11:21), Dave (Wabs) Walbert
- Board of Directors Absent:
- Staff/Volunteers Present: Rick Balentine, Jake Andersen, Nikki Lapin, Jan Schubert, Jan Legersky, Scott Arthur, Ken Josselyn, Jacob Arywitz, Jake Spaulding, Thom Barr, Adam Cohen, Roya Beklik, Marc Zachary, Will Hardenbergh, Max Lyll, Sandy Schiff, Ryan Warren, Conner Pierce, Arnold Nimmo, Andy Reid and Bruce Bradshaw
- Public/Others: Karl Hanlon, Arvid Satyam, Rafi Sands

Public Comment: None

Pano AI Project Overview, Arvid Satyam and Rafi Sands

- Arvid Satyam gave an overview of how the program worked over the summer and thanked Chief Balentine and DC Andersen for their help and knowledge while training the AI. The pilot program has been running since mid-July. The AI dramatically improved and has been learning the terrain with the fall color changes, snow and environmental changes. During this time, Pano AI has expanded into other states and will be used in Australia soon. They have also started working with insurance companies. Arvid gave a demonstration of the software and reviewed a few of the fires captured via Pano AI in other areas of the country.
- Rafi Sands reviewed other areas of the software and the enhancements made and additional improvements coming in 2022.

North 40 Roofing RPF Review

- Three companies provided bids for the roofing on North 40 station; Grand County Roofing (dba The Roofing Co.), Ajax Roofing and Pacific. The board reviewed all bids.

MOTION: Motion by John to hire Ajax Roofing after confirmation that the bid includes working with the solar company. Steve second. All approved.

Staffing Review

- DC Andersen gave a brief overview of the presentation that was given to the board on November 9th proposing the hiring of (3) Lieutenants and (3) Firefighters to fill two additional positions. A copy of the presentation was included in the board packet. DC Andersen clarified that the goal

would be to meet the NFPA standards and hitting 1710 and 1720. This is a potential down the road and into the future, but the proposal for this year is to get us operating at the level we are targeting to be at with at least (2) people at Station 61 and Station 62, ideally with an officer on each crew to help with those essential calls and aid in employee development. In addition, keeping the stations open, having an EMT on each day, and having someone that can drive all apparatus. This proposal is covered within our current budgeted funds. Take the money that we have, that the public has entrusted us with and putting it directly toward increasing our service to them, their safety and the safety of our employees.

- Staff addressed questions and concerns from the board. There was much discussion and comments from the board about this proposal with several comments from current members of Aspen Fire.

MOTION: Motion by Steve to move forward with proposal as presented by staff. Michael second. Vote: John-No, Steve -Yes, Wabs-Yes, Michael-Yes, Denis-No. Motion passes 3-2.

MOTION: Motion by Michael to adjourn at 1:14pm. John second. All approved.

2022 Budget Review was tabled until December 14th at 5:00pm.

***** A full recording of this meeting can be requested by contacting the District Administrator at nikki.lapin@aspenfire.com or by calling 970-925-5532.**