

Aspen Fire Protection District

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



Board of Directors Regular Meeting December 10, 2019

Meeting called to order by Denis at 5:07pm

Roll Call:

- Board of Directors: Karl Adam (*arrived at 6:21pm*), Stoney Davis, Denis Murray, Dave (Wabs) Walbert, John Ward
- Absent:
- Staff/Volunteers: Rick Balentine, Parker Lathrop, Jan Schubert, Nikki Lapin, Ryan Warren, Jacob Arywitz, Michael Holmes, Ken Josselyn
- Public/Others: Karl Hanlon

Approval of Action Items/Minutes (5:09pm):

- **Motion by John to approve minutes from Regular Meeting on November 12, 2019. Wabs second. Discussion: There was further discussion of who is driving staff and support vehicles. All approved.**

Starwood Update:

- They were not able to attend meeting. Starwood has been in discussion of hiring another employee with EMS/Firefighting abilities. There was discussion of Starwood wanting to charge rent to Aspen Fire stationkeepers to help offset cost of the new employee. Starwood has tabled this conversation for now.
- Jacob Arywitz gave an overview of the preplans they have been doing up in Starwood. There have been 11 homeowners interested in having their property preplanned, Jacob and James have completed 7.

Budget Review 2020 (5:17pm)

- Pitkin County Shop: There is budget of \$72,000, \$45,000 of it is guaranteed labor. Rick met with Pitkin County Shop to discuss future of their services. In the next two to three years they will not be able to service Aspen Fire apparatus due to their workload. Staff will need to start looking into other options. Rates will be increasing.
- Wildfire Adaptive Project: This came in less than was needed.
- Employee Wellness - Additional funding has been added for mental wellness. Nikki and Rick gave and overview of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).
- Volunteer Shift Stipends - \$73,000 has been put in. The amounts are based on if every volunteer would pull two shifts with an accepted paid shift amount of \$50. Based on two shifts/day.
- Officer & D/O Incentive - This would be stipend offered to Officer and Driver/Operator certifications. The goal is to have more participation in 2020.
- Wildfire Program (Seasonal FF+s) - The funds were used from the donation received by Aspen Community Foundation.

- Phone System: The current system was installed 2008 and an update is needed. The new system being proposed will have upgraded capabilities and will include a VOIP, which will save money on long distance calling.
- Roof Replacement – Budget has been set at \$175,000. A rough estimate was given of \$18/square foot. Ken is trying to locate information on the material to see if it is under warranty.
- Boiler - Rick circulated bids. One of the bids came in lower as they are discounting due to what Aspen Fire does for the community. There may be a stainless steel venting. There is a tentative start date of December 30th. The bid is coming in at \$130,000. Some of budget may need to be moved from 2019 to 2020 for payment.
- Aspen Village Build Put: It was originally budgeted for \$100,000, however after further inspection it will be closer to \$200,000. Rick asked for direction on how the board would like to proceed. No further decision or direction was received.
- North 40 Housing - Rick handed out updated plans. Rick met with Sarah Ott, City Manager in regards to childcare. The city is working on it and feels we may not need to keep that in the plans. New drawings do not include daycare.
- Drone Program: Parker showed video of structure fire using drone. Some of budget will be used to build out the Tahoe.

Board Member Comments & Action Items:

- **Motion by Stoney to adopt Resolutions: 2019-12-01 To Adopt 2020 Budget, 2019-12-02 To Set Mill Levies and 2019-12-03 To Appropriate Funds. John second. All approved.**

CEO/Fire Chief (5:58pm)

- A Summit County firefighter died battling a fire. Aspen Fire will be sending a team over to cover their station for 24 hours. Aspen Fire will supply an Engine and crew. The funeral is being held in Denver on Friday, December 13th. Honor Guard will be going to Littleton to provide honor guard duties. Rick mentioned that we try not to put people on roof if at all possible.
- Certificate of Participation (COP): This is a done deal. As of today, \$16 million went into UMB account. There was discussion whether to withdraw for expenses used on North 40 project to date.
- Wildfire Mapping – This is in test currently and have people trying it out to receive feedback before going live. Looking to launch it after the holidays.

Old Business (6:14pm)

- Airport MOU: Currently waiting for it to be circled around to other agencies.
- ESCI Report: They have been meeting with several people. The initial document will go to Karl Hanlon to review with board in a draft format before it is released for public record.

New Business (6:22pm)

- North 40 – The board had further discussion of whether to put the single-family home back in to the plans for future recruiting purposes. **Motion by John to amend the plans to include single-family detached home. Karl second. Discussion: Further discussion on multi space room. John made an amendment to include additional multi-purpose space if it means giving up a couple units. All approved the first motion, not the second motion.**

Motion by Denis to adjourn meeting and move to Executive Session to discuss personnel matter pursuant to §24-6-402(4)(f), C.R.S., Chief Review. All approved.

** Full recording of this meeting is available upon request to the District Administrator or on the website at www.aspenfire.com.*