

## MINUTES OF THE PARKER FIRE DEPARTMENT DISTRICT FIRE BOARD

05/15/24- Open Meeting Minutes and Public Budget Hearing Minutes to be approved at the open public meeting on Wednesday June 12, 2024. An Open Meeting and a Public Budget Hearing of the Parker Fire Board convened on May 15, 2024, at the Parker Fire District, located at 1101 W. Arizona Ave, Parker, AZ., 85344 that convened at 5:35pm. The following matters were discussed at the Open Meeting and the Budget Hearing.

## **Agenda Public Hearing**

- Open Meeting/Roll Call/ Budget Hearing: Meeting & Public Hearing started at 5:35 pm. Roll Call: Members Present: Chairman Samantha Anderson, Ron Sims, Estevan Diarte & Allayzia Foster Personnel: Asst Chief Jason Weatherford, Barbara Cole, Angie DeLeon, J. Thurman, A. DeLeon and T. Kowalski. Public: David Plunkett, Steve Ziegler, Jennifer Aspa, Chris Chambers, Ryan Aspa, Nora Yackley & Wayne Posey.
- 2. (Discussion): open to the Public for Comments. *No public comments regarding the Budget Hearing.*
- 3. Adjourn: Public Hearing Closed. *Hearing adjourned at 5:36 p.m.*

## **Agenda Open Meeting**

- 4. Convene into open meeting: 5:36 pm
- 5. (Call the Public. Consideration and discussion of comments from the public. Those wishing to address the Parker Fire District Board need not request permission in advance Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01(H), the Fire District Board is not permitted to discuss or take an action on any item raised in the call to the public that is not specifically identified on the agenda. However, individual Board members may be permitted to respond to criticism directed at them. Otherwise, the Board may direct that staff review the matter or ask that the matter be placed on a future agenda. Public input is limited to two (2) minutes unless a greater amount of time is approved by the Board. The Fire District Board cannot discuss or take legal action on any

## issue raised during the Call to the Public that is not on the current Agenda; due to restrictions of the Open Meeting Law.

Steve Ziegler, Town of Parker Public Works Director stated he was here to answer any questions regarding agenda item # 11 regarding discussion of the Town of Parker fire hydrants. Board Member Ron Simms asked if any of the fire hydrants that are out of service are on schedule to be repaired. Steve Ziegler stated that they are currently in the process of repairing fire hydrants that are not operatable. Steve Ziegler also stated that they have two fire hydrants that have arrived for replacements and that they are scheduling them to be replaced. Steve Ziegler reported that the two fire hydrants that are going to be replaced are at Joshua and 12<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> & Kofa. He also stated that he and his staff are also scheduling the other repairs for the other fire hydrants.

Wayne Posey, Buckskin Fire Board member stated that the reason he was here was that he noticed on the agenda that there would be discussion regarding the IGA between Parker Fire and Buckskin Fire District.

*Ryan Aspa stated that he was here to address regarding adding a new board member to fill the current vacancy.* 

- 6. **Consent Agenda**: (Discussion and Possible Action): to Approve Consent Agenda Bill- 24-52 to approve the following:
  - **a**. Minutes submitted for Open Meeting held on 04/04/2024.
  - **b**. Minutes submitted for Open Meeting held on 04/10/2024.

c. Acceptance of monthly expense reports for 04/01/2024 - 04/30/2024.

A motion was made by Allayzia Foster to approve the Consent Agenda Bill 24-52 to approve the minutes submitted for Open Meeting held on 04/04/2024, minutes submitted for Open Meeting held on 04/10/2024, and the acceptance of monthly expense reports for 04/01/2024 - 04/30/2024, along with a second from Ron Simms.

There were no other comments or questions prior to voting.

Ayes: Simms, Anderson, Foster, and Diarte.

Nayes:

- Absent:
- Abstain:

Chairman Samantha Anderson: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #6.

**7. Consent Agenda: (**Discussion & Possible Action): to Approve Consent Agenda Bill-24-53 to approve the following:

**a.** Approval to adopt the Parker Fire District Annual Budget and Tax Rate of 2.9936 for the Fiscal Year 2024/2025.

**b.** Approval to adopt Resolution 2024-3 to adopt the 2024/2025 Budget and Tax Levy. *A motion was made by Ron Simms to approve the Consent Agenda Bill 24-53 approval to adopt the Parker Fire District Annual Budget and Tax Rate of 2.9936 for the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and approval to adopt Resolution 2024-3 to adopt the 2024/2025 Budget and Tax Levy, along with a second from Allayzia Foster.* 

There were no other comments or questions prior to voting.

Ayes: Simms, Anderson, Foster, and Diarte.

Nayes:

Absent:

Abstain:

Chairman Samantha Anderson: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #7.

8. (Discussion & Possible Action): Board recognition of resignation letter from current Board member Amanda Weatherford.

A motion was made by Allayzia Foster to accept the resignation letter from Board Member Amanda Weatherford, along with a second from Ron Simms. There were no other comments or questions prior to voting. Ayes: Simms, Anderson, Foster, and Diarte. Nayes: Absent: Abstain: Chairman Samantha Anderson: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #8.

9. (Discussion & Possible Action): Board to elect new Secretary/Clerk for the Parker Fire Board. A motion was made by Samantha Anderson to elect Board Member Allayzia Foster as the new Secretary/ Clerk for the Parker Fire Board, along with a second from Ron Simms. There were no other comments or questions prior to voting Ayes: Simms, Anderson, Foster, and Diarte. Nayes: Absent: Abstain: Chairman Samantha Anderson: Motion passed by a unanimous vote on agenda item #9.

10. (Discussion & Possible Action): Discussion & Possible Action regarding adding a position of Assistant Chief of External Affairs.

Board Member Ron Simms passed out & read a tentative job description for the position of Assistant Chief of External Affairs that would report to the Fire Board only, There was some discussion about the position. A motion was made by Samantha Anderson to deny adding a position of Assistant Chief of External Affairs to Parker Fire District, along with a second form Allayzia Foster. Ayes: Simms, Anderson & Foster. Nayes: Diarte Absent: Abstain: Chairman Samantha Anderson: Motion passed by a majority vote on agenda item #10.

11. (Discussion & Possible Action): Discussion of Fire Hydrants in Town of Parker.

Chairman Samantha Anderson stated that she asked for this to be put on the agenda because we received a cease and desist regarding this conversation, and she wanted it on record. Chairman Samantha Anderson also stated that she had questions on whether this was for the previous chief discussing and also what was being done in regard to repairing it. Steve Ziegler, the Town of Parker Public Works director stated that the staff has retested all the fire hydrants in town. Steve Ziegler stated that since then staff have not been able to test some hydrants because the fire hydrants are inoperable, and they are unable to get them operable with the equipment that they have. Steve Ziegler stated that 10 fire hydrants in town are not operatable, 2 are leaking but operatable and that those service values are auxiliary values, so they are closed but that the hydrant itself is operational. He stated that he and his staff are going to continue to work to get them all repaired, and that it is not a cheap endeavor, it is very expensive and very timeconsuming. He stated that he has a small staff and understands that the hydrants are needed to put out fires, but the cease and desist was specifically related to the former chief's email and his statements in that email. Steve Ziegler stated that the former chief got the cease and desist because of what he said.

12. (Discussion & Possible Action) regarding IGA with Buckskin Fire. No Action taken.

13. Chairman's Report:

a. Ask Board Members for items to be considered for inclusion on the next agenda. b. Schedule the next Regular Session. Chairman Samantha Anderson stated that she received a letter for intent for the new board member vacancy and would like it to put on next month's agenda.

14. Fire Chief's Report:

A. Summary of Incident Report/Activity Log

B. Monthly Activities

C. Parker South

Assistant Chief Jason Weatherford reported that everything is moving forward, class is going well, and that moral is high.

15. Adjourn. 6:04 pm.

amantha Anderson, Chairman

Date: 101220

Angie DeLeon Administrative Assistant

Date: 05/16/2024

mmo Minutes approved by:

Date: <u>6.12.24</u> 112/24 Minutes approved by: \_

PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY MAY REQUEST A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION BY CONTACTING, JJOHN CHAMBERLIN, INTERIM FIRE CHIEF OF PARKER FIRE DISTRICT (928) 667-3321 PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED MEETING. FACILITIES ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE