

NORTHWESTERN JOINT FIRE DISTRICT

June 9, 2021

Minutes

The Northwestern Joint Fire District Board met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m.. The Board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Logan Rife, representative of York Township, Mr. Jerry McClary, representative of Liberty Township and Ms. Allison Hamilton, Fiscal Officer were in attendance. Ms. Beth Marshall, representative of Taylor Township was unable to attend the meeting. Chief Tim Merrick, Mr. Mike Moffett, Mr. Dave Thomas and Mr. Rob Morey were noted in attendance .

The Board reviewed the May 12 2021 minutes.

- i. Mr. Logan Rife made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. McClary seconded the motion.
All were in favor.

Ms. Hamilton provided the Board with the 2021 May Bank Reconciliation, purchase orders, payments, payroll and receipts. As the District continues to move accounts for the Fire Department; there is an increase in invoices and payments. Chief Merrick is continuing to work on updating the vendors with the new name and tax identification number. Ms. Hamilton completed the application for the District to cover the members with Life Insurance as approved at the previous meeting. She has not had an update on the Dental and Vision coverage for the Fire Chief.

- ii. Mr. Rife made a motion to accept and approve the Fiscal Officer's Financial Report. Mr. McClary seconded the motion.
All were in favor.

Chief Merrick advised the Board it was a busy month in May operationally and structurally. He went over his report highlighting the runs and staffing. Chief Merrick asked the Board to approve to be hired the following: Tyler Potts and Thomas Jumper. He has meetings scheduled with Northern Union County Fire District and Southwest Hardin to begin discussions of the impact of the proposed Solar Farm. The Station lighting has been switched over to LED as the updates to the station continues to move forward. The staff indicated they are looking for more structure to the day to day operations. Chief Merrick has assigned "Firefighter" of the day to act as officer in charge. Chief Merrick is looking to add Lieutenants. The Lieutenants will go through a testing and interview process. Chief Merrick has met with the Richwood Bank Marketing team to work on improvements to the NWJFD website. There was discussion of Board members bios, historical pictures and hyperlinking to be added. There is a photo shoot scheduled for next Thursday to help with content on the website.

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Mr. Thomas advised he felt it would be a good idea to have all the Township's representatives on the website.

- iii. Mr. Logan Rife made a motion to accept the Fire Chief's report including the approval to hire 2 additional members as presented. Mr. Jerry McClary seconded the motion.
All were in favor.

Mr. Rife asked to table the ImageTrend storage fee approval until the next meeting. In addition, the Board will table the issue of providing food for staff meetings/training etc until the next meeting. Ms. Hamilton will bring information on the language that would need to be in the resolution.

The Board received the Union County Auditors Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue and had an opportunity to review the Certificate. The Auditor estimated 8 mills would generate an estimate of \$1,848,656.00 in revenue.

- iv. Mr. Logan Rife made a motion to accept the Union County Auditors Certificate of Estimated Property Tax Revenue for 8 mills to generate an estimate of \$1,848,656.00 in revenue. Mr. Jerry McClary seconded the motion.
All were in favor.

The Board reviewed Resolution 04-2021; A Resolution to Proceed. The Board intends for the levy to be first due in 2022. After discussion, Mr. Rife & Mr. McClary tabled the Resolution until the next meeting in order for Ms. Marshall to be present for the vote. Resolution 04-2021 will be on the agenda for the July 14th Board Meeting.

04-2021

Northwestern Joint Fire District Union County, Ohio

A RESOLUTION TO PROCEED AND TO SUBMIT THE QUESTION OF LEVYING A TAX OUTSIDE THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION AS AN ADDITIONAL LEVY FOR FIRE, EMS AND RELATED PURPOSES IN NORTHWESTERN JOINT FIRE DISTRICT, UNION COUNTY, OHIO, AND DIRECTING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO CERTIFY AND TO FILE THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS WITH THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS.

The Board of Trustees, Northwestern Joint Fire District, Union County, Ohio, met in regular session on June 9, 2021, at the Liberty Township Hall, 21463 Main Street, Raymond, Ohio, with these members present: Jerry McClary, Beth Marshall, and Logan Rife.

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_____ introduced this resolution and moved its passage:

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2021, the Northwestern Joint Fire District Board of Trustees passed a resolution declaring the necessity, for the purpose of providing and maintaining Fire, EMS, and related purposes, to levy an additional tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation under R.C. §5705.19(I) at the rate of eight (8) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to eighty cents (\$0.80) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a continuing period of time; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2021, the Union County Auditor certified to the Northwestern Joint Fire District Board of Trustees that the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by the tax levy during the first year of collection is One Million Eight Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand, Six Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$1,848,656.00), based on the current assessed valuation in the District of Two Hundred Forty-Three Million, Two Hundred Forty-Four Thousand, One Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$243,244,160.00);

THEREFORE, BE IT **RESOLVED** BY THE NORTHWESTERN JOINT FIRE DISTRICT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES, UNION COUNTY, OHIO, THAT:

Section 1. The Board of Trustees, not less than two-thirds of all members elected thereto concurring, desires to proceed with submitting the question of an Additional tax levy for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, mechanical resuscitators, underwater rescue and recovery equipment, or other fire equipment and appliances, buildings and sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, for the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire-alarm communications, for the payment of firefighting companies or permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighting, emergency medical service, administrative, or communications personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under section 145.48 or 742.34 of the Revised Code, for the purchase of ambulance equipment, for the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, or for the payment of other related costs under R.C. §5705.19(I) at the rate of eight (8) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to Eighty Cents (\$0.80) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, to the electors of Northwestern Joint Fire District.

Section 2. The tax levy will be for a continuing period of time, and such levy will include a levy on the current year's tax list beginning in 2021, first due in calendar year 2022, if approved by a majority of the electors voting on the question.

Section 3. The question of such tax levy shall be submitted to the electors of Northwestern Joint Fire District at the election to be held therein on November 2, 2021.

Section 4. On or before August 3, 2021, the Fiscal Officer is directed to certify to the Board of Elections, Union County, Ohio, a copy of the Resolution of Necessity, a copy of the certification of Estimated Revenue by the Union County Auditor, and a copy of this Resolution to Proceed, and to notify the Board of Elections to cause notice of election on the question of levying the tax to be given as required by law.

Section 5. that it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were passed in an open meeting of this Board, and that all deliberations of this Board that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, and in compliance with all legal requirements including Revised Code §121.22.

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Mr. Moffett asked about what it meant to levy a tax outside of the 10 mill limitation. Ms. Hamilton advised the County can levy up to max of ten mills to operate; it's called inside millage and does not need to be voted on. Some of those mills go to townships in the form of Road & Bridge & Township tax; as an example, the rest is allocated to the County. So in essence there is no additional millage or funds to operate the District. The District has to then ask for additional millage (outside millage) to operate. Outside millage needs to go to the voters for passage.

The Board will meet with the Fire Chief one hour prior to the regularly scheduled Board meeting on Wednesday July 14th for a performance review.

Mr. Rife made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with Mr. McClary seconding the motion. All were in favor. The Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Allison M. Hamilton, Fiscal Officer

Northwestern Joint Fire District

Reviewed:

_____ Logan Rife

_____ Beth Marshall

_____ Jerry McClary