

The Northwestern Joint Fire District Board met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. at the Leesburg Fire Station. The Board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Logan Rife, representative of York Township, Ms. Beth Marshall, representative of Taylor Township, Mr. Jerry McClary, representative of Liberty Township, Mr. Bill Lowe, representative of Leesburg Township and Mrs. Allison Hamilton, Fiscal Officer were in attendance. Chief Merrick, Lt. Rob Morey were also in attendance.

The Board reviewed the September 13, 2023 minutes.

- I. Ms. Marshall made a motion to accept the minutes; Mr. Lowe seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Ms. Hamilton provided the Board with the 2023 August Bank Reconciliation. Ms. Hamilton is continuing to track the sweep account with the primary account stating it makes it difficult to balance the bank rec.. The Board was presented with the Union County Auditor's Rates and Amounts for 2024.

- II. Mr. Rife made a motion to accept the Fiscal Officer's Financial Report; including the Purchase Orders/Blanket Certificates, payments and payroll. Mr. McClary seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Chief Merrick presented a formal public apology.

Chief Merrick presented his report to the Board. The Department responded to 67 calls. There was adequate staffing to handle the run volume. The Department had 281 hours of training.

Interviews for Full Time and Part Time have been completed, Station 291's heater has been installed, Fall maintenance on equipment has started, working on repairing Engine 303's pump valves, the AED LifePak12 maintenance contract has been received and signed and working on 2024 budget numbers. The Chief presented the Board with a FT Captain and District Chief job description, along with a strategic plan for 2024-2027 and a business plan. The Department is working on preparation for the changes to EMS reporting as mandated by the Federal government and the State changes to the Ohio Fire Reporting system.

Chief Merrick advised the Board that Lt. Barrett has received her PIO certification.

Chief Merrick wanted to recognize the crews for a quick response to a fire call. From the time the call came into Dispatch and the crews marked on scene was 4 minutes and 45 seconds.

Chief Merrick presented the Board with a policy for pregnancy, maternity and breastfeeding. Chief spoke with Thayne Gray and Chip Comstock and as the District has less than 50 employees; it was not recommended to implement a policy similar to FMLA. After discussion the Board agreed.

Chief Merrick and Lt. Morey have been working on an updated pay structure; the District continues to fall behind and needs to stay competitive.

- III. Mr. Rife made a motion to accept the Fire Chief's Report. Mr. McClary seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- IV. Mr. Lowe made a motion to accept the quote in the amount of \$2500 from Double D Construction for concept development for Station 301 renovations. Ms. Marshall seconded the motion. All were in favor.

V. Mr. Lowe made a motion to accept the updated pay structure with the exception of the Senior staff pay increase; this will be reviewed again once parameters have been identified and placed. The increases will go in effect with the next run of payroll. Ms. Marshall seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Rife made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Ms. Marshall seconded the motion. All were in favor and the Board went into executive session at 7:51 p.m.

Mr. Rife made a motion to exit executive session and return to the regular meeting. Ms. Marshall seconded the motion. All were in favor and the regular meeting resumed at 9:34 p.m.

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE
BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES
AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR**

(BOARD OF TRUSTEES)

Revised Code, Secs. 5705.34-5705.35

The Board of Trustees of Northwestern Joint Fire District, Union

County, Ohio, met in regular session on the 11th day of October ,
2023 , at the office of Northwestern Joint Fire District__ with the following members

present:

Mr. Logan Rife, Mr. Jerry McClary, Mr. William Lowe, Ms. Beth Marshall

Mr. Rife moved the adoption of the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Joint Fire District,

Union County, Ohio, in accordance with the provisions of law has

previously adopted a Tax Budget for the next succeeding fiscal year commencing January 1st, 2024____, and

WHEREAS, The Budget Commission of Union County, Ohio, has

certified its action thereon to this Board together with an estimate by the County Auditor of the rate of each tax necessary to be levied by this Board, and what part thereof is without, and what part within, the ten mill limitation; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of Northwestern Joint Fire District,

Union County, Ohio, that the amounts and rates, as determined

by the Budget Commission in its certification, be and the same are hereby accepted; and be it further

RESOLVED, That there be and is hereby levied on the tax duplicate of said District the rate

of each tax necessary to be levied within and without the ten mill limitation as follows:

Northwestern Joint Fire District2023
SCHEDULE A

SUMMARY OF AMOUNTS REQUIRED FROM GENERAL PROPERTY TAX APPROVED BY BUDGET COMMISSION
AND COUNTY AUDITOR'S ESTIMATED TAX RATES

FUND	Amount Approved by Budget Com mission Inside 10M. Limitation	Amount to be Derived from Levies Outside 10M. Limitation	County Auditor's Estimate of Tax Rate to be Levied Inside 10M. Limit	County Auditor's Estimate of Tax Rate to be Levied Outside 10M. Limit
	Column I	Column II	Column III	Column IV
1. Fire District Fund		2,389,200		8.00
TOTAL	-	2,389,200	-	8.00

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**SCHEDULE B
LEVIES OUTSIDE 10 MILL LIMITATION, EXCLUSIVE OF DEBT LEVIES**

FUND	Maximum Rate Authorized to Be Levied	Co. Auditor's Est. of Yield of Levy (Carry to Schedule A, Column II)
<u>Fire Levy</u> authorized by voters on <u>November 2, 2022</u> not to exceed continuing	8.00	2,389,200
_Levy authorized by voters on __, __ not to exceed __ years.		

_Levy authorized by voters on _ _, ___ not to exceed ___years.		
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and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Fiscal Officer of this Board be and he is hereby directed to certify a copy of this Resolution to the County Auditor of said County.

Mr. McClary seconded the Resolution and the roll being called upon its adoption the vote resulted as follows:

Mr. Rife, yea_ Mr. McClary, yea_ Mr. Lowe, yea, Ms. Marshall, yea _

Adopted the day of 11 of October, 2023, _Year

Allison M. Hamilton Fiscal Officer of the Board of Northwestern Joint Fire District, Union County, Ohio

As there was no further business; Ms. Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting, with Mr. McClary seconding the motion. All were in favor. The Meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted By:

Allison M. Hamilton, Fiscal Officer

Northwestern Joint Fire District

Reviewed:

_____ Logan Rife

_____ Beth Marshall

_____ Jerry McClary

_____ Bill Lowe