

A regular meeting of the Alma District Fire Board was held at the Alma Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m. by Alma City Manager Aeric Ripley. A quorum of the Board was present.

Roll Call

Board members present: Kevin Beeson, Ron Hunt, Greg Mapes, Doug Merchant, Michelle Pitts, and Aeric Ripley.

Board members absent: Tish Mallory (arrived after roll call).

Others present: Curtis Dancer, Harold House, and Mark Williams.

Motion by Pitts, seconded by Beeson, to approve minutes of the July 26, 2023, meeting, as presented. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mapes, Merchant, Pitts, and Ripley.

Voting no: none.

Absent: Mallory.

Monthly Reports

City Manager Ripley briefly reviewed month end reports for Fire and Rescue. Finance Director Curtis Dancer noted interest revenue continues to be steady, a budget amendment on the agenda will even up a discrepancy in totals, and the budget is right where it is expected to be for this point in the year.

Motion by Mapes, seconded by Merchant, to receive the following reports: Fire Revenue and Expenditure Report Ending September 2023, Rescue Revenue and Expenditure Report Ending September 2023, Fire Board Check Disbursements September 2023 Report, and Rescue Check Disbursements September 2023 Report. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mapes, Merchant, Pitts, and Ripley.

Voting no: none.

Absent: Mallory.

Finance Director Dancer presented year end reports for Fiscal Year 2023. He explained the numbers have been handed over to auditors, and he expects the numbers presented will be final numbers. Dancer said there is enough in liquid assets to cover the cost of the new fire truck, and he will be working with Public Safety Director Mark Williams to develop a long-term capital projects list.

Motion by Beeson, seconded by Pitts, to receive the Fire Trial Balance and Rescue Trial Balance for Year End June 2023.

Board Member Tish Mallory arrived at 7:05 a.m.

Motion to receive reports carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, Merchant, Pitts, and Ripley.

Voting no: none.

City Manager Ripley explained receipt of a \$50,000 grant, and thanked Board members for their letters of support for the application. He asked for approval of a budget amendment to provide for receipt and disbursement of the funds. Brief discussion followed regarding air packs and donation of obsolete air packs to the St. Louis school system.

Motion by Mallory, seconded by Hunt, to approve the following FY 2024 budget amendment:

a. To increase the Alma Fire District Authority Revenue Budget by \$50,000 and the Alma Fire District Authority Expenditure budget (line-item Uniform/Safety Equipment) by \$50,000 for Air-Paks

purchased through the Michigan Fire Equipment Grant Reimbursement program. Note: The total cost of the packs purchased is \$62,804. \$50,000 is the amount allotted from the MI Fire Equipment Grant to be reimbursed. The remaining \$12,804 is covered through current-year operating budget.

Motion to approve the budget amendment, as presented, carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, Merchant, Pitts, and Ripley.

Voting no: none.

Motion by Pitts, seconded by Beeson, to donate end-of-life/obsolete air packs and vests to St. Louis schools. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, Merchant, Pitts, and Ripley.

Voting no: none.

City Manager Ripley presented Fire and Rescue Department 3rd Quarter Reports. Director Williams spoke briefly regarding the reports and the department's new reporting system. Discussion followed regarding a car-fire event. Board Member Hunt asked about report listings for two alarms. Fire Chief Harold House explained the location of a fire alarm at Alma College had caused some issues and was subsequently moved. Discussion followed regarding alarms and typical reasons.

Director Williams spoke about the numbers for rescue personnel runs. Discussion followed regarding working with employees through family emergencies and situations. Board Member Mallory asked about dispatch cancelling en-route calls. Williams explained credit given for those calls.

Motion by Pitts, seconded by Merchant, to receive the Fire Department and Rescue Quarterly Reports. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, Merchant, Pitts, and Ripley.

Voting no: none.

Director Williams offered thanks to St. Louis Fire Chief, Bill Coty, for assistance with successful grant applications. Williams said over \$17,000 was received for helmets and vests for Rescue personnel. He also mentioned another grant received for \$18,000, which was used to purchase coats and packs for Fire personnel. Discussion followed regarding the coats formerly used by the Fire Department.

Board Member Beeson advised he would be unable to attend the April meeting.

Motion by Beeson, seconded by Mapes, to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 a.m. Motion carried.

Voting yes: Beeson, Hunt, Mallory, Mapes, Merchant, Pitts, and Ripley.

Voting no: none.

Sara Anderson, City Clerk

Date of Approval