

ARIZONA CITY FIRE DISTRICT

SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

April 23, 2014

1. **Call to order**

Board Chairman Diane Wright called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m. at the District's hall, located at 14022 S. Sunland Gin Road, Arizona City, AZ.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

Board Chairman Wright led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **Welcome to Guests**

Board Chairman Diane Wright welcomed the members of the Fire District and guests to the April 23, 2014 Special Board meeting.

Board members present: Board Chairman Diane Wright, Board Clerk Betty Harding, Board member Jim Leary, Board member Bill Bailey and Board member David Eastwood.

Staff present: Business Manager Hazel Corbin, Captain Nate Bailey, and Dean Craun.

Public Present: John Trainor, Julie Bailey, Jennie Carlson and Kayne Crison (AZ City Newspaper).

4. **Fire Chief's Report** None

5. **Staff reports** None

6. **Correspondence** None

7. **Consent Agenda** None

8. **Call to the Public** Jennie Carlson stated that she felt that stopping the process of hiring a Fire Chief would be a large mistake on the Board's part. She went on to state that the Board has spent \$14,000.00 and that she didn't know what the Board must be thinking.

9. **Old Business:**

A. Public Hearing Related to Possible Adoption of the 2012 International Fire Code, Review of the Proposed Fire Code, Update and Amendment. Captain Bailey explained the process of the Adoption of the 2012 International Fire Code. He explained that the item was properly noticed and published for the general public and the public is invited for

comment and input into the decision-making process. The process includes two Public Hearings, with this being the first and the second Public Hearing will be on May 21, 2014 during the Regular Board meeting. After the second hearing, there will be an Agenda item for **Discussion and Possible action re: Adoption of the 2012 International Fire Code.**

At 6:05 pm Board Chairman Diane Wright stated the Board was recessing from the Special Session into the Public Hearing on the 2012 Proposed International Fire Code.

Board Chairman Wright stated that the notice had been posted for the last 30 days and that it was her understanding that anyone could come in and review the proposed Fire Code Book. Captain Bailey stated that the book was available as well as two electronic copies for the public. Captain Bailey stated that Arizona City Fire District has been using the 2003 code and there have been three updates since the 2003 Fire Code. He informed the Board and Public that Pinal County is using the 2012 Fire Codes and the District is trying to be aligned with the County. Captain Bailey commented that the many revisions and addendums within the 2003 Fire Code are now included in the text of the 2012 Fire Code.

Board Chairman Wright asked for public questions or comments. Mr. John Trainor commented that as a layman he did not understand the Fire Code and its implication and he asked for an explanation. Captain Bailey stated that the Fire Code is a standard that is set by the International Code Council. He explained that the Fire Code applies to business, commercial business and some residential buildings such as group homes. In the 2003 Fire Code, group homes did not need to be inspected unless there were 15 or more people in that home. The new Fire Code requires inspection of group homes with six or more people residing there. The 2012 International Fire Code will assist the District in its continued efforts to provide for public safety and the safety of District personnel. Captain Bailey stated that the intent of the possible adoption of the new Fire Code on July 1, 2014 is not to "hammer" businesses with Fire Code issues but rather to assist and educate business owners and give them time to fix code violations.

Captain Bailey also stated that another part of the Fire Code involves the adoption of a fee schedule for fire inspections. Chairman Wright asked if this would impact the residential owner at the time of remodeling, Captain Bailey replied no. Chairman Wright then asked if the new fire code would impact our ISO rating. Captain Bailey stated it does help our rating because we have a fire prevention program in place. When Chairman Wright asked if there would be any Grandfathering for business, Captain Bailey replied that there would not be any grandfathering. He stated that if there was an issue, a business could ask for an exemption.

At 6:13 pm Board Chairman Wright closed the Public Hearing and went back into the Special Session

10. **New Business**

A. **Discussion and possible action re: Putting the hiring of a Fire Chief on hold, until we know more about the budget.** After a short discussion, Board member Jim Leary made a motion to postpone hiring a Fire Chief for 2 to 4 months. Board member Bill Bailey 2nd the motion. The motion was approved by a 3 to 2 vote. Voting YES was Board Clerk Harding, Board member Bill Bailey and Board member Jim Leary and voting NO was Board Chairman Diane Wright and Board member David Eastwood.

B. Discussion and possible action re: Suspend Immediately the Hiring for a full-time Fire Chief. After a short discussion Board member Bill Bailey made the motion to suspend immediately the hiring process for a full-time Fire Chief. Board Clerk Harding 2nd the motion. The motion was approved with a 3 to 2 vote. Voting YES were Board member Bill Bailey, Board Clerk Harding and Board member Jim Leary. Voting NO were Board Chairman Wright and Board member David Eastwood.

Board Chairman Wright stated that at this time there would not be a Meet and Greet with the Fire Chief Candidates on Monday, May 5, 2014 or interviews on Wednesday, May 7, 2014.

11. Next Meeting Date

Regular Business meeting will be May 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting.

Board Chairman Wright asked that the items for May 21, 2014 agenda please be given to the Business Manager by Tuesday, May 13, 2014.

13. Adjournment

Thereafter, Chairman Diane Wright adjourned the public session at approximately 6:47p.m.

Date approved: _____

6-18-2014



Board Clerk