

Minutes Chelan Fire and Rescue Public Budget Hearing Monday, November 9, 2020 at 6:00 P.M. 232 East Wapato, Chelan, WA



*The CFR Board of Commissioners will conduct the meeting via Zoom. The public is welcome to join by following this link:* <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86867657424</u> *Meeting ID: 868 6765 7424 or dial +1 253 215 8782.* 

Roll Call: Phil Moller, Russ Jones and Karyl Oules.

**<u>Staff:</u>** Fire Chief Mark Donnell, Assistant Fire Chief Brandon Asher and District Secretary Carol Kibler. **<u>Others:</u>** Richard Uhlhorn, Lisa Garvich, Shift Duty Crew, Tucker, Bill Basset, Myrna Duke and Larry Peabody.

Meeting Call to Order: Chairman Moller called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approve Agenda: Approved as submitted.

## 2021 Budget Presentation: Chief Donnell

- Overview of Budget Summary Worksheets, see attached.
  - Reviewed revenues and expenditures Reviewed the apparatus schedule Reviewed the Capital expenditures

serve the communities.

- Presentation of 2021 Budget
  - Reviewed the revenue and expenditure assumptions of the 2021 Budget Reviewed the current estimates for 2021-2022 in the general, general investment, capital expenditures and capital investment which is the apparatus and equipment account. Bond General Fund is the account to pay for the non-voted bond, Chief Donnell will have a recommendation regarding the payment plan for the bond. The bond funds was for the building of station 75 (South Shore fire station). Reviewed the expenditures by each category. Reviewed the stipend shifts recommends 1 stipend shift for 2021. Chief Donnell stated Mike Asher, Jim Oatey and Arnold Baker concur in with submitting for the SAFER volunteer grant again. The local fire chiefs are meeting monthly to discuss how to better
  - 2021 Goals: Chief Donnell reviewed the impacts of services and organizational goals. See attached presentation.

Chairman Moller state excellent job, hats off to all who helped put together the detailed budget tools. Its apparent to make some changes and soon. The clarity of the presentation shows where we are at. Thank you for the drafting the apparatus replacement schedules.

## **Public Comment:**

Larry Peabody complimented the staff; Fire Chief Mark Donnell, Assistant Fire Chief Brandon Asher and Administrative Office Manager Carol Kibler. Shout out to the commissioners to be open. Thank you, Fire Chief Mark Donnell, for putting the narrative together. Replacement of Apparatus and keeping Assistant Chief position is to be considered integrations of the fire department. The revenue base short term rental fees could be one avenue to look into. Running on luck should not be a factor! Keep moving forward to maintain and deliver services to the valley.

Chief Donnell thanked all who attended, we want the transparent information out to the community. Staff and I will look at the staffing levels and identify apparatus needs to keep things going and palatable for the community to keep our services going. We are committed, we have identified concerns and have a plan. We look forward to making things happening!



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## Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Jones stated just to maintain we need 3-4 hundred thousand a year more, we need an additional 5 hundred thousand a year to replace apparatus for a total of about a million. Increasing the rate to 0.30 to 0.40 cents per 1000 that's the choice we are going to have to make. We have to continue to the make sense to the home owners. The alternative is staffing cuts.

Chairman Moller stated it would be great if we didn't have to ask for the \$1.50 maximum levy rate. Chairman Moller asked Commissioner Jones to draft a matrix of levy rates based on the information received in the 2021-2026 budget projections. Chairman Moller stated moving toward region efforts and seeking out those opportunities is a good start.

Commissioner Oules state she likes that we are looking outside of the box and seeking regional efforts to better serve the communities.

Chairman Moller suggested discussing the rental fees with new elected Chelan County Commissioner Tiffany Gering.

Chief Donnell stated moving forward our funding needs are for maintenance and operation levy. We have identified what the needs are. Looking at a 5 to 10-year cycle we anticipated and calculated what we need to move into the future.

Chief Donnell stated we need to reach out to the community and put together a citizen's advisory board to help plan for the maintenance and operations funding needs for the near future. We can facilitate the citizens' advisory board The fire commissioners strongly need the support. We don't need to hire a consultant to facilitate and it's a cost savings.

Bill Bassett suggested looking at the Lake Chelan EMS levy and ask how they did it and use as a model of success.

Chairman Moller thanked everyone for their time. And stated if you have any questions you can call Chief Donnell.

Adjournment: there was no more business before the board the meeting closed at 7:21 p.m.

**Chelan County Fire Protection District 7 Board of Commissioner's** 

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Attest: District Secretary Carol Kibler