

WEST BENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
TUESDAY OCTOBER 4th, 2022
WBRFA HEADQUARTERS STATION 310

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Shane Williams and Vice Chair David Moon were present. Commissioners Richard Clizbe, Lisa Galbraith, and Randy Cobble were also present. L. Galbraith attended the meeting via Zoom.

Others in attendance: Fire Chief Charles Damron and Administrator Gayle Carrasco.

Public Audience: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING -Budget Proposal for 2023

Chairman Williams broke from the regular meeting at 6.15pm to begin the Public Hearing on the Budget Proposal for 2023.

Chief Damron explained the receipt of the assessment values and by his preliminary calculations the property tax revenues should come in approximately \$104,000 increase from 2022 property tax revenue. Chief Damron provided the board with a summary of revenue projected. The new construction value of 55,000,000 contributed to the revenue increase. A discussion followed on the increase of construction projects. He explained that he will have the 2023 proposal prepared for the October 18th meeting. Chief Damron provided a brief overview and timeline of the property tax levy process with the county. Commissioner Moon asked for the timeline for the next levy. Chairman William stated this will occur in 2026. The preparation for the next levy will be an item for the Chief and board to consider starting. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the few property owners who have chosen not to pay the property tax for Fire Suppression/EMS services and the effects this has on the department. Traditionally these owners are not interested into changing their status as it relates to their property tax. Chief Damron provided the board with the calculated projection of the new levy rate being \$1.31. Commissioner Moon explains the scenario of the levy rate decreasing due to the completion of the new construction. Areas of concern were mentioned by several of the board members on the newer developments and the fire engines having difficulty turning the apparatus with the smaller street width provided. Chief Damron was pleased to state the new engines do have a tighter turn radius. The discussion of the local property and newer developments continued. Commissioner Moon asked Chief Damron if staff will be attended the derailment training, and if more information is needed to speak with Scott Hawley. Chief explained that he will have one staff member at recruit academy and one staff member covering at the fire department, and he will speak to the firefighters at drill practice tomorrow and attempt to get a couple staff to attend the training.

Chairman Williams spoke of the community event, Touch-a-Truck held on October 15th. Chief Damron confirmed the departments attending from 11am-3pm. Trunk or Treat will be another event the department staff will be involved with.

Chairman Williams made a side note to Chief Damron that he had spoken to the City Mayor Randy Taylor, and the mayor was pleased with Chief Damron bi-annual report, and stated he did an exceptional job. Commissioner Moon asked which staff members will be attending the High School football games and mentioned the need for the staff to be EMT's

Chairman Williams broke from the Public Hearing 2023 Budget Proposal meeting at 6.26pm to resume the regular board meeting.

ORIGINAL



SHANE WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN

The West Benton Regional Fire Authority's minutes are intended to be a reasonable summary of the RFA's governing board deliberations and actions. The Minutes are not a verbatim record of everything said at the meeting. The minutes include all actions taken by the West Benton Regional Fire Authority Board.



GAYLE CARRASCO, ADMINISTRATOR

ORIGINAL