

***ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #8***  
***Minutes of Board of Commissioners Meeting***  
***May 19, 2021***

**Call to Order:** 5:30pm

**Roll Call:**

Michael Anderson  
Sandra Slifer  
Stephen Saussy  
Jeff King Arrived @ 5:40pm

**Absent:** Brandon Brener

**Also, Present:**

Susan Ohlenforst, Board Secretary  
Chief Brandon Stein  
Captain Eric Givens

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Modification of Agenda:** Chief Stein requested to add Captain Givens to agenda before Hearing of public concerns. Captain Givens would like to discuss adding QR Codes to employee ID cards. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, it was unanimously approved to add Captain Givens to the agenda.

**Captain Givens Discussion QR Codes:** Captain Givens presented to the board an idea of adding QR codes to the back of the employee ID cards. By doing this is would give a two-step verification to the active employees of St. Tammany Parish Fire District #8. The board was very interested in this idea and suggested that Captain Givens move forward with implementing this practice. Captain Givens indicated he would get with the website designer and the IT department and start work on this immediately.

**Hearing of Public Concerns:** None

**Public Hearing:**

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, it was unanimously approved to open the public hearing on the discussion of setting the millage rate for 2021.

No public was present to comment. Commissioners discussed possible millage options.

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, it was unanimously approved to close the public hearing on the discussion of setting the millage rates for 2021.

**Executive Session:** Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, it was unanimously approved to open executive session to discuss performance and evaluation of Chief Stein and Ohlenforst. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, it was unanimously approved to close the executive session.

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Anderson recommended to raise Ohlenforst to \$17.50 an hour for her annual raise. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, it was unanimously approved to raise Ohlenforst salary to \$17.50 per hour. Chief Stein received his 2% increase on his anniversary date of January 26. Upon motion by Saussy, seconded by Slifer, it was unanimously approved that Chief Stein received his increase of 2%.

**Secretary's Report:**

Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, the meeting minutes for April 21, 2021 were unanimously approved.

Financial Report including a P&L Budget Performance for the month of April 2021 and a Check Register Report for the General Fund Account up to April 30, 2021 were presented. Balance of General Fund as of April 30, 2021 was \$1,136,728.19 with \$905,129.88 being current year funds and \$231,598.31 being Capital Funds from previous years money. The balance in the LAMP Emergency Fund was \$263,588.02. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by Saussy, the financial statements for April 2021 were unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None

**Chief's Report:**

Vehicles and equipment

Minor general repairs and upkeep on units

Personnel

No exposures and/or quarantine due to Covid.

Current personnel numbers are as follows:

Paid- 13

Part-time- 13

Volunteer-10

Annual testing and inspections

Pre-planning continuing as scheduled.

Hydrant testing has been coordinated with the Town of Abita

Training

On-line training is still currently being performed

Tower drills are continuing as scheduled

Station improvements

No update for Station 81 remodel

Communications

None

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**Old Business:**

**Website Refurb update:** Ohlenforst updated board on the website update. Website design has been approved. Pending up to date pictures from Givens the website will go live in the next couple of months.

**Station 81 Renovation Update:** Chief Stein gave update in his Chief's report.

**FICA Alternative Plan with Equitable:** After a brief discussion of the plan by the board it was moved to the floor for motion to adopt the FICA alternative plan by Anderson. Upon motion by Slifer, Seconded by Saussy, it was unanimously approved to adopt the FICA Alternative Plan.

**New Business:**

**Health Insurance Discussion:** Ohlenforst presented the renewal premiums of \$63,543.48 to the board for review. After discussion it was determined that a 1% increase did not warrant any objections, therefore Anderson moved it to the floor for a motion to accept the renewal of \$63,543.48 for the 2021-2022 premium. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by King, it was unanimously approved.

**Workman's Comp Insurance Discussion:** Ohlenforst presented to the board the renewal for LWCC Insurance for the 2021-2022 premium year of \$96,870.00. The premium was an increase of \$1859.00 from the previous year. After discussion amongst the board, it was determined that with the dividends we have received in past and even though the Rate/Factor had slightly increased they were all in agreement with the premiums for the upcoming year. Anderson moved the issue to the floor for motion and vote to accept the premium as stated. Upon motion by Slifer, seconded by King, it was unanimously approved.

**Adopt the Levied millage rate:** Discussion occurred about the possible millage options to FD8. The only option available for this year is to accept the levied amount of 32.25 total millage rate since millage rates just went out for election in 2018. See Resolution

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RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following millage(s) are hereby levied on the 2021 tax roll on all property subject to taxation by St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District #8:

MILLAGE

<i>Acq. &amp; Maint</i>	<i>1069039</i>	<i>13.800 Mills</i>
<i>Acq. &amp; Maint</i>	<i>1069084</i>	<i>9.200 Mills</i>
<i>Acq. &amp; Maint</i>	<i>1069109</i>	<i>9.250 Mills</i>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the proper administrative officials of the Parish of St. Tammany, State of Louisiana, be and they are hereby empowered, authorized, and directed to spread said taxes, as hereinabove set forth, upon the assessment roll of said Parish for the year 2021, and to make the collection of the taxes imposed for and on behalf of the taxing authority, according to law, and that the taxes herein levied shall become a permanent lien and privilege on all property subject to taxation as herein set forth, and collection thereof shall be enforceable in the manner provided by law.

The foregoing resolution was read in full; the roll was called on the adoption thereof, and the resolution was adopted by the following votes:

YEAS: Slifer, Saussy, King, Anderson

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINED: 0

ABSENT: Brener

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the resolution adopted at the board meeting held on May 19, 2021, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Abita Springs, Louisiana, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021.

**Adjournment:**

Upon motion by Slifer to adjourn, seconded by Anderson, it was unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting.