**DEPOE BAY RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

**Board of Directors Special Meeting – Minutes**

**January 25, 2024**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Attendance:** | | |
|  |  |  |
| **Board Members:**  Richard Krolak - President  Janel Gifford – Sec./Treas.  Kathy Lebeuf – Director  Paul Erskine – Director | **Staff:**  Thomas Jackson– Div. Chief  Lynn Johnson – Admin. Asst. | **Guests Via GoTo Meeting/In Person:**  Bryan Daniels – Fire Chief  Patrick Ganz, Captain / EMT |

Board President Richard Krolak called the Regular Board meeting to order at 3:00 pm and all

present recited the pledge of allegiance. Roll call was taken to establish that a quorum was

present.

**Old Business**

**Item 1 – Levy Discussion and Motion –** Rich noted that this conversation started in December, and we continued the conversation a few weeks ago at the regular Board Meeting. He added, there is the feeling we have closure, and asked if anyone had anything new to add or if there were any comments. He informed the rest of the Board that the email he received from Vice President Batty indicated that he could agree with a $1.25 which would be a $.16 increase to the current Levy amount, which would result in an 8.3 percent increase in total property tax for the first year. If you roll out the rate change and base change for five years, it results in just over a 25 percent increase over five years.

The other proposal that has been most thoroughly vetted is a $.30 cent increase in the Levy amount and when you roll that out it is just short of a $.36 percent increase in the tax rate.

Janel advised as a result of Collin declining the offer of employment, and Firefighter Chris Miller leaving and Bryan taking some of his paid leave when he leaves, and if we continued with the overtime at 54% we ended up with roughly $230,000 left over. She continued by saying; with that leftover if we wanted to not be in the negative at the end of five years the increase would need to be $1.39 which is a .30 percent increase.

President Rich Krolak noted that consolidation continues to come up by the management and the Union, and there is some interest in resurrecting the discussions with other jurisdictions. A short discussion ensued on the previous attempts at consolidation and concluded with Rich noting that if we are interested in going down that road it has an impact on all of this. It was discussed in further detail, and at the conclusion of the discussion Secretary-Treasurer Janel Gifford made a motion to ask the voters for a $.30 increase that would take the Local Option Levy from $1.09 per thousand to $1.39 per thousand and based on the numbers we have now have the District end up with a small positive balance at the end of five years.

A discussion ensued about the necessary paperwork that needs to be filled out and submitted to the County, as well as the explanatory statement, and talking points. Also discussed was holding meetings with HOA’s in the district. Chief Daniels noted that the Union will be our partner in door-to-door campaigning and setting up a table at Chester’s Market by handing out pamphlets as well as just getting the message out. Director Lebeuf asked if a Town Hall meeting could be held at the Gleneden Beach Station, and Chief Jackson answered, yes. Richard noted that one of the selling points last time was having three firefighters on duty. Janel asked if it doesn’t pass do we want to say anything more than there will be a reduction in services? And, if someone asks; what does that mean? Chief Jackson replied I think it’s important to make sure that everyone understands the safety standards of NFPA and their safety requirements on the ground, and if we only have two personnel responding, that is a problem. Chief Jackson advised we can work on the wording of that message. He also believes Chief Daniels and the Union campaigned last time and we can use similar messages, because he believes it was pretty effective. Directors Gifford and Lebeuf, and Chief Jackson agreed to confer and come up with an explanatory statement.

**New Business**

**Item 1 – Establish Search Committee for Fire Chief Position -**  President Krolak ask if the group feels the need to establish a committee, and he suggested communication with current employees to determine if there is any interest in the position. He asked the other Board members how they would like to proceed.

Director Lebeuf said she believes it is prudent that we try to go internal first and see what kind of interest we have, and if nothing happens, she talked to an executive recruiter yesterday that has been used by the Western Fire Chiefs Association, and he is someone that she thinks the Board should consider.

The discussion then turned toward the job description, and Paul brought up the value of having an FSCEO certification or at least being willing to get it. The discussion continued on the topic, and at the end of the conversation President Krolak said if I’m hearing this right; a position description document will be put together and there will be a distribution to current employees to elicit internal candidate interest, and depending on what is received if necessary reach out to an executive recruiter.

**Public Comments and/or Questions**

None.

**Agenda Suggestions**

* The next regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, February 13, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm

**Roll Call**

Date: January 25, 2024

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Present | Absent |
| Paul Erskine | X |  |
| Richard Krolak | X |  |
| Janel Gifford | X |  |
| Robert Batty |  | Excused |
| Kathy Lebeuf | X |  |

**Motion # 1** **and Voting Record:**

Date: January 25, 2024

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Motion Made By: |  | Motion Seconded By: |  |
|  | Robert Batty |  | Robert Batty |
|  | Paul Erskine | X | Paul Erskine |
|  | Richard Krolak |  | Richard Krolak |
| X | Janel Gifford |  | Janel Gifford |
|  | Kathy Lebeuf |  | Kathy Lebeuf |

**MOTION #1**: to ask the voters for a $.30 increase that would take the Local Option Levy from $1.09 per thousand to $1.39 per thousand and based on the numbers we have now have the District end up with a small positive balance at the end of five years.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | FOR | AGAINST | ABSTAINED | COMMENTS |
| Paul Erskine | X |  |  |  |
| Richard Krolak |  | X |  |  |
| Janel Gifford | X |  |  |  |
| Robert Batty | N/A |  |  | Excused |
| Kathy Lebeuf | X |  |  |  |

RESULTS

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PASSED | FAILED |
| X |  |