

ROCKLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
MEETING OF DISTRICT DECENNIAL COMMITTEE ON EFFICIENCY
14 Skokie Highway, Lake Bluff, Illinois 60044
Monday, February 12, 2024 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. The meeting of the Decennial Commission on Efficiency of the Rockland Fire Protection District was called to order at 5:33 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following attendance noted:
Trustee Marcin Malinowski Deputy Chief Holtz (Libertyville FD)
Trustee Chris Johnson Fire Chief Peter Siebert (Lake Forest FD)
Trustee Bruce Mack Attorney John Kelly
Treasurer Karl Snoblin
Mr. Dan Dunn (Citizen Representative)
Member Malinowski lead those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Discussion regarding the Rockland Fire Protection District Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency. Committee Member Dunn stated that he reviewed all of the materials provided by the District and Treasurer Snoblin. He added that based on that review there appears to be limited opportunities for additional efficiencies. One area that could be examined is the use of the District surplus funds. Member Dunn suggested looking at the potential to use surplus funds to assist the Lake Forest and Libertyville Fire Departments as they serve the Rockland residents. The Committee discussed this thought with Chief Siebert and Deputy Chief Holtz. Currently, Lake Forest is leasing its ladder truck and when that lease ends, it will be an expensive undertaking to replace the truck. The Chiefs also mentioned the ongoing need for ambulance furnishings and equipment. Member Snoblin, the District Treasurer, informed the Committee that the current reserve fund is in the neighborhood of \$300,000.00. Over the last several years, the Rockland Fire Protection District has been able to reduce its property tax levy by 18%. He also expressed a concern for the age of the building, its ongoing viability, and its value. Member Snoblin's suggestion is to look at further reductions of the levy. Committee Member Johnson agreed that the use of District funds to assist Lake Forest and Libertyville with ambulance equipment purchases would be an efficient use of District funds. Member Johnson also inquired as to the possibility of increasing efficient responses with the Lake Bluff Fire Department and Lake Forest's responses to Lake Bluff. Chief Siebert answered that there is a current Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Lake Forest and the Village of Lake Bluff and that he was concerned that any proposed IGA between Rockland and Lake Bluff might impact that agreement. Member Malinowski stated that it appears that the District is operating as efficiently as possible and that the suggested focus on the use of reserve funds might be the best area to explore.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the January 8, 2024, Decennial Committee Meeting. Member Malinowski moved and Member Johnson seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024 Decennial Committee Meeting. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote of the Committee members.
4. Public Comment. No members of the public were present, and no comment was offered.

5. Discussion regarding any other business that may be lawfully brought before the Committee. No additional items were raised. Attorney Kelly will provide Member Mack with a Word version of the suggested Decennial Committee Report form.
6. Next Meeting Date: On a motion by Trustee Malinowski and a second by Trustee Johnson the next meeting date of the Decennial Committee was set for 5:30 p.m. on May 13, 2024. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.
7. Adjournment. On a motion by Trustee Malinowski and a second by Trustee Mack, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Kelly
District Attorney