



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 11
Board of Commissioner's
Minutes of the Meeting on February 15, 2023
Fire Chief Jack Dockery
7:03 pm – 7:24 pm

ROLL CALL

Russell Lindsey – Absent
Ryan Dreux - Present
Eugene Swann – Present
Floyd Trascher – Present
Michele Blackwell – Present

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MINUTES

Mrs. Blackwell asked, has everybody read and approve the minutes from January 10th meeting?

Mr. Dreux said, Yes, I went over them.

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, I sure did and and they seemed to be in order. I move that we approve the minutes with the video governing.

Mr. Swann said, I will second it.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Mr. Dreux, how do you vote?

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, motion carries. We will move on now to the Financial Report, Chief Dockery.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, alright, for the month of January, we are looking for a 8.33% range. Looking through just our every day monthly expenses, the only one standing out was natural gas. That's on the second page down at the very bottom. We are at 15.35%. That was basically due to when Mr. Jack Frost came down for a couple of days and it was in the 20's over here. This station basically runs on natural gas so, it was a decent size bill to say the least. But, it looks like we are getting back to the normal weather so that should straighten itself out throughout the year. Fuel was right at point with 8.42%, so, it was a little bit over the 8.33% but, there again, with fuel, we never know what the cost is going to be day to day, month by month. Other than that, all the other re-occurring bills look to be running in check right now.

Mr. Trascher said, Chief, on the gas situation, it's an annual budget so, it looks \$230, that's probably what the bill was for that month.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, so as we progress throughout the year, like you said as the weather mono-rates and the gas bills will be less so, that will catch back up with itself. We can expect to spend most of it in the colder months.

Chief Dockery said, yes, and there again, it was...

Mr. Trascher said, it's a planned percentage for the year so, it's like, sometimes the insurance when that bill hits, it's an annual bill so that month it looks so much higher.

Chief Dockery said, exactly.

Mr. Dreux asked, the electric is \$1,000, a month?

Chief Dockery asked, what's that?

Mr. Dreux asked, the electric?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, that's between the stations.

Chief Dockery said, that's between the three separate stations.

Mr. Dreux said, okay, I was about to say if it's...

Chief Dockery said, yes, at 113, it's about \$17 a month. I know for a fact the bill for 111 that I

just got was \$600. This was \$30 (the classroom) and 112 is usually about \$200 lower than 111 just because it's newer. It's insulated more.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, we need to do something with this one. I am glad to see we got something going.

Mr. Dreux said, they are probably high because of the electric set up they got over there too.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, Biden did it.

Mr. Dreux said, so antiquated.

Mrs. Blackwell said, you can blame it on him too.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, Biden did it.

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, is that all on our Financial Report?

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, any other questions?

Mr. Dreux said, I am good.

Mrs. Blackwell said, if there's no other questions, we will move to the EMS Report.

EMS

Chief Dockery said, EMS side, we brought in \$14,731.01 for the month of January.

Mrs. Blackwell said, seems like those keep going up every month.

Chief Dockery said, we stay busy.

Mrs. Blackwell said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, what about that automobile policy.

Mr. Dreux asked, did you all have an extraction right there at Rhonda, on Pine Street Extension?

Chief Dockery said, not an extraction but, yes, the patient was in the vehicle and it was just a steep angle so...

Mr. Dreux asked, so she just went off in the ditch?

Chief Dockery said, yes, and we were able to get the door open and assist the patient out. No tools were required.

Mr. Dreux said, well an extraction is an extraction.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, are there any other questions for the EMS Report? If nothing, we will move on to the Chief's Report, Chief Dockery.

CHIEF'S REPORT/ EMS REPORT - Chief Jack Dockery

Chief Dockery said, for the month of January we had:

EMS	61
MVA	3
STRUCTURE FIRE	2
VEHICLE FIRE	1
GRASS FIRES	3
SERVICE/GOOD INTENT	10
DISPATCHED/CANCELLED IN ROUTE	10
FALSE ALARM	6
POLICE MATTERS	1
TOTAL	97

Chief Dockery said, looks like both fires, one of them was a little mobile home actually, right next to my house. The crew got in there and got it contained to the room content so, they put a nice stop on it. The other one was another mobile home that they were renovating so, it was, it had a lot of damage before we even got there but, they still put a good stop on it. It was kind of strange to have 2 in one month but, it does happen. We do what we can do with it.

Mr. Dreux said, made their day.

Chief Dockery asked, what?

Mr. Dreux said, the firemen, made there day. They like fires.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, are there any questions on the Chief's Report? If there are no questions there, we will move to OLD BUSINESS.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Blackwell said, there is none. We will move to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Blackwell said, there's actually none there except Public Comment. Does anybody have anything to say?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Dreux asked, this right here, are you going to get to this?

Chief Dockery said, that is just, I wanted to bring it to you all's attention. This is one concept that we are looking at. I actually talked to Mr. Swann right before the meeting started. I want to do another drawing to where, we are not restricted to the hallway, the way it is set up right now. We are working on that drawing right now to see...

Mr. Dreux said, okay.

Mr. Trascher asked, how are you looking at that Chief? Will you be moving the hall out of here, you mean?

Chief Dockery said, well, right now it's all...

Mr. Trascher said, this looks like, kind of, the lay out we have now.

Chief Dockery said, in a way it is. We just added different little sections. We expanded the bunk room.

Mr. Dreux said, this bathroom is where people slept and your moving everybody to the bunk room, right?

Chief Dockery said, yes. We are looking to fill in the first bay and raise the slab right there and build in right there to add more space.

Mr. Trascher asked, let me ask you, Chief, the upstairs, could that possibly be restricted to the living quarters? We could move all the living quarters upstairs with a bathroom upstairs and a bathroom down stairs and that would give you the whole first floor for operations or whatever

else, recreation and things like that and the upstairs, renovate the whole upstairs for living quarters.

Chief Dockery asked, like bunk living quarters?

Mr. Trascher said, yes, is there room up there?

Chief Dockery said, yes, basically, I told them when ever we do it, I want to take everything out. I want it to be an open area and we can build what we need to build and not be constraint to existing...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, that's what I am saying. Just as a concept that I have been thinking of, if we have the room upstairs, you can put upstairs as strictly living quarters. With of course with a bathroom and shower, the amenities for that and then downstairs would be the kitchen, recreation, administration and whatever else you need. That way we would not have to disturb the bays and we wouldn't loose a bay. I think we need all the bays in that building.

Chief Dockery said, I don't think we are going to need all four bays.

Mr. Trascher said, as we keep moving equipment in and all, I mean, the bay, not just for the trucks that are parked, but that garage bay area is a good thing to have. I mean, do we need the living space more than that? By putting it upstairs it would take all the living space from the bottom.

Chief Dockery said, I can see what you are saying on it. We can kick it around.

Mr. Trascher said, we are going to have a tanker coming aren't we?

Chief Dockery said, we have a new engine coming. When the new engine comes one of the older engines will be surplussed and sold off. So, right now, we have a reserve engine, a service truck, our primary engine and a reserve med truck which, either the reserve, well, the reserve med truck would actually go over to 113 and be stationed in the bay over there if it's just in reserve status.

Mr. Trascher asked, by 113, you mean Porter's River? The building that we have there, yes.

Chief Dockery said, yes, over where it is right now.

Mr. Trascher said, just using that for storage more or less on that unit.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, I just, the bays, I just hate to see us loose it if we can make the living quarters upstairs and that way we could keep the bays unless we need the space. We are looking at putting on more personnel. We are going to need the space for that.

Mrs. Blackwell said, something we also need to think about, this isn't for just this year or next year. This is for 20, 50 more years so...

Mr. Trascher said, as we bring in more equipment or something, every bay that we have now is occupied.

Mrs. Blackwell said, also, we might have 20 people in 50 years.

Mr. Trascher said, that's why I am asking about upstairs.

Mr. Dreux said, that's fine and I understand what you all are saying. If you do grow, the opportunity to expand to another station also. So, if you get the tax base, you are going to expand to another station. There's only so much you can do in one, correct me if I am wrong, one...

Chief Dockery said, one footprint.

Mr. Dreux said, yes, one footprint.

Mrs. Blackwell said, we are already talking about maybe getting something across the tracks. That's what we really need.

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell said, and I like the idea of something being over there even if you had to run across the tracks to jump in it to get over there.

Mr. Trascher said, because if you put, like you are talking about moving the hall, if we got the stairs and we have the room upstairs to make that exclusively living quarters and you know, closets and storage and things like that. That would open this whole bottom that you could change the configuration.

Chief Dockery said, I am open to any suggestions. Like I said, this is one out of...

Mr. Trascher said, looking at it, we need to do something with it. We need to move on.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I will definitely kick that idea around too and see if I can get a drawing set up like that.

Mr. Dreux asked, how tall is that building? Say from slab to your girders or whatever, where the ceiling would be. Do you know off hand or guesstimate what it would be? Is it over 20 feet?

Chief Dockery said, three scaffolds.

Mr. Dreux said, so a scaffold is what, 7 foot, 6 ½ foot?

Chief Dockery said, I would say close to 20 foot.

Mr. Dreux said, so, about 18 feet then.

Chief Dockery said, it's about 18 or 20.

Mr. Dreux said, so 8 foot is a normal height on a living ceiling so, that's 16 feet. It gives you 2 feet. Plus, that would be at the roof or would that be at the truss?

Chief Dockery said, yes. So, by all means, it is an idea to kick around because we have a lot of space up there that we are not using right now. It's a old storage space.

Mr. Trascher said, I've been up there but it's been so long ago.

Chief Dockery said, basically, the upstairs a/c, I want to rip it out. Whatever we do, it's going to get ripped out.

Mr. Trascher said, when we do the building we have to do all the mechanical.

Chief Dockery said, yes, and I don't even want to go back to what we had. They tried putting no ducts in there and the ducts sweat and you know, I rather do a split unit.

Mr. Dreux said, you all had that problem here too.

Chief Dockery said, yes, so I will talk to my guy that is drawing them up and we will come up with something. As long as I give them a bathroom, they are tickled, you know. That was our biggest...

Mr. Trascher said, yes, upstairs you have the room to make a his and hers.

Chief Dockery said, that was our biggest complaint at 112. we built it, when I first started, we built it and all the beds were downstairs in the back room. Then we moved all the bedrooms upstairs but, the bathroom...

Mr. Trascher said, the bathroom was downstairs.

Chief Dockery said, yes, at night you kinda judging if you want to risk going down the pole or taking the long way around on the stairs.

Mr. Trascher said, no, and that shouldn't be a problem because you can just tie the lines in because the walls are going to be out anyway. Like I said, whether you put 2 up there...

Mrs. Blackwell said, even if you did a shower downstairs and a shower up top, you still have plenty of room for it.

Chief Dockery said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, with the upstairs you would be using this building to it's fullest, I think.

Chief Dockery said, alright.

Mr. Trascher said, and it would give you room for expansion.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, do you like that Chief?

Mr. Trascher said, we need to do something with that front up there, that gutter.

Mr. Dreux said, there is no gutter, right?

Chief Dockery said, there is no gutter right now, no.

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, the tin came out to the edge, but we need to get that gutter up there.

Mr. Dreux said, normally they put like a drip edge but, a gutter would probably be better because it keeps the water off anybody walking out.

Mr. Trascher said, the inside, we need to do, that inside needs to be at least, something usable.

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mr. Trascher said, and there's no sense in doing that until we get that thing. We had a contract with that guy too.

Chief Dockery said, yes, I am actually waiting on quote to come in for an actual sealing of the roof. From basically, Bay 1 over across the living quarters to do a sealant like we did here. I am waiting for one more quote to come in so we can start that process because, nevertheless, that has to be done.

Mr. Trascher said, yes, because like the old gutters that are on the side over here, I don't think we will use any of that. All that needs to be...

Chief Dockery said, no, all that needs to go to the scrap yard. Make a scrap run.

Mr. Trascher said, and in general, the other thing we are going to have to plan on, you know we are planning on this panel that has to be done. That generator, we are going to have to do something with it.

Chief Dockery said, I want to move it.

Mr. Trascher said, I noticed the service line pulled apart on it.

Chief Dockery said, yes, that's...

Mr. Trascher said, been that way.

Chief Dockery said, yes, actually I want to move it away from the, where it's at to near where the septic is. There's a triangle in the parking lot and I would like to block that off and have it actually, right there. It's away from the window. Right now, you hear it whenever you are

trying to sleep. So, that's got to come out a little further.

Mr. Trascher said, once you get the concept of what you want, we need to go ahead and hire an architect to have it drawn. Then we can get bids to have it done but, we need to move on that this year. We are putting money aside for it and it's time to move on it, I think.

Mr. Dreux said, yes, it's probably the best time to move on it.

Mr. Trascher asked, on our awards program, do you have somebody lined up? Are you working on that Chief?

Chief Dockery said, I will wait until we go off record for that one.

Mr. Trascher said, maybe we will get some of the guys or gals to turn out.

Chief Dockery said, yes, we are rapidly searching for somebody for it for this year?

Mr. Trascher asked, are we going to do one a year?

Chief Dockery said, yes. I can't do one a quarter, I would be done with everybody in 2 years. I don't have 150 employees.

Mr. Dreux said, you would only have 10 award winners.

Mr. Trascher said, I know we did talk about bringing some more on. How is that going?

Chief Dockery said, well, I know we are starting a class in March so, I'm hoping to get a couple from it. We put feelers out and I got a couple guys that they do our class and they are interested. We just brought on another medic so, he started on the 13th. It's coming.

Mr. Trascher said, good deal.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, we got anything else?

Mr. Trascher said, Madam Chair, no, that's all I had.

Mrs. Blackwell said, if we don't have anything else and no public to comment, do we have a motion to adjourn?

Mr. Swann said, I make a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Dreux said, I will second.

Mrs. Blackwell said, Mr. Dreux, how do you vote?

Mr. Dreux said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Swann, how do you vote?

Mr. Swann said, yes.

Mrs. Blackwell asked, Mr. Trascher, how do you vote?

Mr. Trascher said, yes.