



APPROVED

11-19-24

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Orland Fire Protection District
Decennial Committee
9790 West 151st Street, Orland Park, IL 60462**

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 @ 6 p.m.

- I. **Call to Order:** Board President Brudnak called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. (Meeting was delayed due to BOT Meeting running over)
- II. **Roll Call:** Board President John Brudnak, Trustees Beth Damas Kaspar, Angela Greenfield and Tina Zekich (Trustee Schirmacher was absent); Chief Michael Schofield and Residents William Bonnar and Christopher Evoy
(Also Present: OFPD Finance Director Kerry Sullivan, Deputy Chief Nicholas Cinquepalmi, and OPFD Attorney Megan Roche Steigauf)
- III. Trustee Roche Steigauf spoke to the purpose of the Decennial Committee. We can do the introduction and overview today for our first meeting.

President Brudnak stated that the purpose of this Committee is to study local efficiencies and report recommendations for increased accountability and efficiency to the Cook County Board.

The first task was to form a committee that includes: the elected Board with the President as Chairman, and 2 residents appointed by the Board and any other members deemed appropriate. Attorney Roche Steigauf stated that the deadline was June 10, 2023 and we completed at the Board meeting on April 25, 2023. We could survey residents and begin gathering materials over the next few weeks.

Fire Chief Michael Schofield stated that one of the things the Committee is going to look at is the 10-year Financial Plan prepared by Finance Director Kerry Sullivan to see where we'll be, along with a 10-year Capital Plan. Looking at opportunities in the future, we have tremendous growth predicted at 159th Street & LaGrange (2 hotels, apartments buildings, restaurants, townhomes, the Triangle, project on old Yonker concrete sight, etc.). We need to look at how we are going to be efficient and grow, and what we need to plan for. Some things we talked about is securing property for the next 5-10 years. The purpose of this Committee is to look at how we can move ahead efficiently and get input from residents on how they want to see the fire district improve in the future. He thinks a 10-year Financial Outlook is very important. We are financially secure currently and we

have to look at the future and anticipated growth. We'll see more commercial growth in the next 3 years than we have seen in the last 20 years.

This could be a good time for the Committee to discuss expanding and consolidating. For example, we have talked in the past about consolidation with Tinley Park and Mokena, and to work with the Village to grab the old Willow Run Golf Course. This Committee will look at – what does the future look like and is consolidation part of that and will it benefit us.

President Brudnak asked what it costs to build a new station and Chief Schofield said approximately \$12,000,000 minimum. Trustee Zekich asked if we are budgeting for that now. Chief Schofield replied that amounts have been budgeted but other things come up that take precedence. For 2025 and 2026 we have tentatively budgeted \$500,000 each year. We know it will be a million dollars just to get 1-2 acres. This committee will help us plan for the future and our growth. Empty farmland will develop. Have been working with the Village on impact fees.

We will get you the information you need and hopefully get feedback from residents. Orland Park is now the destination location for medical facilities. Ambulance calls will continue to go up with the growth expected. An issue we have is that we can't add any more staffing because our stations are maxed out. Station 4 area is getting 2 hotels so it will have 4 hotels, 2 nursing homes, and the largest shopping facility outside the mall but it is on a small lot and space is maxed out.

We have to make a plan to do things better and move into the future—looking at consolidation and providing the best service.

Attorney Roche Steigauf stated we'll need to compile a list of 2-3 topics from our resident members Bonnar and Evoy that we can gather information on for May's meeting.

Chief Schofield mentioned that fleet maintenance and dispatch as well as the regional training center have grown substantially and we have to make sure that we are doing what the taxpayers want from us.

Committee member Evoy inquired further about the timeline and Attorney Roche Steigauf stated that a report would be filed with Cook County in December of 2024. She indicated that this would be required every 10 years.

Finance Director Kerry Sullivan stated that they can give their criteria they can build a scenario for projected revenue that are flexible if they are interested.

Adjourn: Trustee Zekich made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting and it was seconded by Trustee Greenfield. Motion Carried.

Ayes: Members Zekich, Greenfield, Brudnak, Kaspar, Schofield, Bonnar, Evoy

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Schirmacher

Meeting adjourned.