



Southern Ozaukee Fire & EMS Board  
MINUTES

DATE: Wednesday, May 8, 2024

LOCATION: 250 Elm Street, Thiensville,  
WI

TIME: 5:30 PM

## I. CALL TO ORDER

President Rosing called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

## II. ROLL CALL

MEQUON MAYOR ANDREW NERBUN  
MEQUON ADMINISTRATOR WILL JONES  
MEQUON ALDERMAN DALE MAYR  
MEQUON ALDERMAN GREG BACH  
MEQUON CITIZEN MEMBER LYNN STREETER

THIENSVILLE PRESIDENT JOHN ROSING  
THIENSVILLE ADMINISTRATOR COLLEEN LANDISCH-HANSEN  
THIENSVILLE TRUSTEE KRISTINA ECKERT  
THIENSVILLE CITIZEN MEMBER DOUGLAS CHIMENTI  
THIENSVILLE ALTERNATE TRUSTEE DAVID LANGE (ABSENT)

## III. NEW BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME

New members, Thiensville President John Rosing and Mequon Alderman Greg Bach, were welcomed by the Board.

## IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 13, 2024 (att)

**MOTION** by Citizen Member Chimenti, **SECONDED** by Mayor Nerbun to approve the March 13, 2024, Minutes. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## V. PERSONAL APPEARANCES AND PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Citizens wishing to address the SOFD Board on any matter not on the agenda may do so at this time. If you desire to be heard on agenda items, you may be heard when that item is considered on the agenda. The time limit is FIVE minutes.

There were no citizens to be heard.

## **VI. GOVERNANCE**

A. Review and Approve Acceptance of \$5,570 donation from Thiensville Fire Department Corporation (att)

Chief Bialk noted the donation from the Thiensville Fire Department Corporation is for dive equipment. Trustee Eckert asked how the Thiensville Fire Department Corporation would be thanked. Chief Bialk suggested the donation could be recognized in the News Graphic.

**MOTION** by Trustee Eckert, **SECONDED** by Citizen Member Chimenti to accept a \$5,570 donation from the Thiensville Fire Department Corporation with gratitude. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Discussion of memorandum dated April 10, 2024, from Chief David Bialk regarding private ambulance use of the Thiensville Fire Department building (att)

Chief Bialk noted former Thiensville President Van Mobley requested the Chief to provide his opinion regarding private ambulance use of the Thiensville Fire Department Building. Chief Bialk shared concerns about potential staffing levels of SOFD paid-on-call members if they could earn more working for a private ambulance company.

Alderman Bach inquired if the Thiensville station is still being considered for SOFD use.

Trustee Eckert noted any lease would be short-term. The company is likely going to locate somewhere in the area, so a partnership makes sense to realize revenue from leasing the space. There also is the possibility SOFD could add paid-on-call staff due to the collaboration.

Administrator Jones noted this is a decision for Thiensville to make and suggested the Village consider the potential benefits and also the optics of having a private company operating in a municipal building.

Administrator Landisch-Hansen encouraged Chief Bialk to attend the Thiensville Committee of the Whole meeting to share his opinion.

## **VII. OPERATIONS**

A. Update regarding purchase of replacement ambulance (att)

Chief Bialk noted the ambulance purchase was approved at the March 2024 meeting. The ambulance has been ordered with a delivery estimate of fall 2027.

#### B. Update regarding City of Mequon Public Safety Building

Chief Bialk shared the City of Mequon conducted a strategic planning session on May 2, 2024 and summarized the consultant recommendations related to the fire department, which included an option for a combined Public Safety building.

Citizen Member Chimenti asked why 7 acres of land is necessary. Mayor Nerbun replied that much has to do with parking, having a sufficient turning radius for large fire vehicles and space for training exercises.

Citizen Member Streeter noted there are significant deficits in the condition of the East Side Fire Station, although the site is the appropriate size. Population density, including age and type of housing, should also be studied, particularly forecasts for the next 10 to 15 years.

Administrator Jones noted some of the information from the strategic planning session goes back almost 10 years, when the City of Mequon considered the future of several old buildings, such as the Logemann Center and the Department of Public Works. The City is in a fiscal position where it can continue looking at facility upgrades. This will be an ongoing discussion topic as efforts progress in Mequon.

Trustee Eckert noted it would be helpful to document a starting point for the discussion. Chief Bialk will present a heat map at the next SOFD meeting.

### **VIII. FINANCE**

#### A. Update regarding Ozaukee County EMS ARPA Grant money (att)

Chief Bialk stated SOFD received a \$324,000 ARPA payment in April.

#### B. Update regarding Fiscal Year 2023 SOFD Annual Comprehensive Fiscal Report (att)

Chief Bialk shared the 2024 budget included funds for an audit from Baker Tilly. The report should be available by late May.

### **IX. REVIEW DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

#### A. July 10, 2024

### **X. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

A. Command Staff Performance. The SOFD Board may convene into Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(f) for the purpose of considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons and/or the preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems.

**MOTION** by Alderman Bach, **SECONDED** by Trustee Eckert to adjourn to Closed Session at 6:10 PM.

1. Roll Call Vote

**Ayes:** Mayor Nerbun, Alderman Mayr, Alderman Bach, Citizen Member Streeter, President Rosing, Trustee Eckert and Citizen Member Chimenti

**Naes:** None

**MOTION CARRIED.**

## **XI. MOTION TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

A. Vote of Board to Reconvene

**MOTION** by Alderman Mayr, **SECONDED** by Mayor Nerbun to reconvene in Open Session at 7:04 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Review and possible action regarding Closed Session topic

**MOTION** by Mayor Nerbun, **SECONDED** by Trustee Mayr to direct staff to engage in services as discussed in Closed Session. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Trustee Eckert, **SECONDED** by Mayor Nerbun to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Submitted by,

Gary Achterberg  
Administrative Assistant  
Village of Thiensville

Signed by,

Colleen Landisch-Hanbsen  
Village Administrator/Village Clerk  
Village of Thiensville