

Gold Hill FireBoard Minutes

September 21 @ 1900 hours

In Attendance:

Chris Dirolf, Chris Finn, Rich Lopez, Gretchen Diefenderfer, Steffi Wilson, Boyd Brown, Rick Sheingold, Leslie Finn (Jess Brookhart not in attendance) Max Yeager, Marcus Moench

Chiefs Minutes:

- July 22- Stabilization Training
- July 30- Medical Call
- August 5- Campfire
- August 6- Medical
- August 14- Pumps Training in Sunshine
- August 17- Medical Call, staged at station
- August 26- Pump and Truck Training
- September 5- Rollover Accident
- September 11- Helicopter Training
- Max Mazurwitz is in Structure Academy in Boulder County
- New firefighter Sara is hoping to get into S130/190
- Leslie and Kent will talk regarding putting on pack tests in October, will work to do pack tests earlier in 2022

Other Business:

- Discussion regarding building new station, representative for Lefthand on scene to report their process
- Many donations supported the effort
- Lefthand has: 1400 residences, 2500 population, 52 square miles, 40 volunteers, 3 full time staff, 2020 mill levy is 16.117 as opposed to Gold Hill which is 6.64. In 2016 the district asked for an increase in the mill levy which helped them get to a higher levy. Several ballot measures were put in place to maintain that levy in response to possible decrease in property taxes.
- \$35,000 for mitigation, dispatch income as of 2021 is 400K.
- Boyd Brown asks about what qualifications are needed to go out on a deployment. Can we as a department move further in this direction?
- Where would we put a new station? Old location wasn't going to have enough room. Purchased a new plot of land from the County. One mistake was having a station designed by size, not by budget. The budget ended up being 6+ million if they had gone with the original design based on size.
- Design was based on input from volunteers. 4 bays, 80ft long
- Have part of station be available for community which assists with DOLA grants, also used for wildfire training
- Dorms and living areas were also designed to decrease response time. Could also house people that came into the area as an IC. Could also be used as alternate housing. Full kitchen, day room, workout room. Make sure you use an architect who

has designed a fire station before. Have local residents on board to help with fundraising and publicity.

- \$3.4 million to build the station. \$1 million was set aside in the general fund through dispatch. DOLA grant for \$1 million. Borrowed/Lease Purchase agreement for \$1.4 million. Need to have all the money up front before beginning.
- Think about cash flow in terms of funding, DOLA requires you put the money up front and they reimburse.
- Places to get funding- Energy Impact Assistance Fund, Etc.
- Fundraising provided \$400K from Lake of the Pines following the Calwood Fire
- Need to make sure accounting is set up with specific funds to keep track.
- Timeline? Will need a campaign to increase mill levy, do publicity for fundraising, consider sites, work with a PR firm to help develop messaging material which explains in clear terms what we are doing.
- Lefthand got rid of Taber, Gold Hill still has Taber which decreases our mills.
- For DOLA, land can be used 'in kind' in terms of matching
- Chris O'Brien can provide more information regarding who he spoke with in DOLA
- Think into the future regarding growth of a station, what do we need 5-10 years from now.
- What is the Administrative infrastructure- paid bookkeeper, treasurer, Chris O'Brien does grant writing.
- Does Gold Hill want to grow? What are our goals? What are our current and anticipated needs? What are our values? What's important to our members and our community? Get data from members and community prior to moving forward with the discussion. Starts with the board members having this discussion.

Other Items:

- Maya reports via email to Rich that another grant has been applied to and secured.

Proposed Budget:

- Losing some of our Mill Levy because the value of our District went over \$1 million. Every two years the assessor's office assesses people's houses. We are currently at a 5.6 mill levy.
- Moving 100K from truck fund into budget to purchase a truck in 2022.
- In grants we have an extra 90k for bunker gear
- Extra money in Fire Equipment fund
- Steffi Wilson asks what type of Truck we will get? It will be a combo of our medical truck and our Brush truck.
- Look over budget and ask Jessica and Chris next meeting
- Kris Gibson reports Gold Hill did not get the AFG grant, copy of budget will be at Gold Hill store

GIS:

- Will have more to report in the fall.

OTHER

- Dirolf reports that the Forest Service wants to help with our CWPP revamp/update. The Forest Service wants to make the document a useful/easy to read document.

- Board needs to consider removing Taber from the district, we would need to put on an election, and would need to look at asking for a mill increase. Next election is in May 2022. We would need to look at putting all of the work together prior to May. Or we wait until November and we add it to the County Ballot.
- We need to pass a resolution that we will be exempt from the audit, Board members will sign documents at this meeting.

Motion to Adjourn at 2039 hours