

Rally Sunday Sunday, September 8, 2019



10:00 am Worship and Children's program

11:00—11:45 am **Multigenerational Activities, Art & Outreach Projects** 

11:45 am—BBQ

# Does our community really need a new school?

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# **TLMFPD** (Cont. from 18)

include Definitions, Recognition, No Strikes or Lockouts, Public and Management Rights, Wages and Benefits, and more.

Background: Over the past 20 months, the district has been discussing with union leaders some form of written labor agreement that identifies opportunities for the union to provide input on matters that are important to them. See www.ocn.me/ v18n4.htm#tlmfpd, www.ocn. me/v18n9.htm#tlmfpd, www. ocn.me/v18n10.htm#tlmfpd, www.ocn.me/v18n11. and htm#tlmfpd.

The board approved 5-0 a resolution of the board to recognize the IAFF Local 4319 ("Union") and to adopt a collaborative meet and conferplus agreement with the union.

#### **Station 1 remodel sets** its permanent location

Chief Chris Truty asked the board to consider approving one of three plans for the proposed remodel of Station 1's living areas as part of the 2017 mill levy process of investing funds into the remodeling of the TLMFPD fire stations. Truty introduced Jeff Mitchell and Aaron Philips from Mark Young Construction Inc. to the board, and both parties discussed the following four possible options:

- Plan A—a complete renovation including a dormitory addition of six individual bunkrooms, a revamped workout area, and restructured storage for \$1.487 million.
- Plan B-a complete renovation including a dormitory addition of six individual bunkrooms, a framed-out workout area, and no storage area for \$1.241 million.
- Plan C-a kitchen remodel, restroom finishes, and a dormitory addition of six individual bunkrooms

for \$936,748.

Original plan¬—complete renovation of existing area, no addition for \$750,000.

Mitchell and Philips answered the board members' questions and concerns on cost, design, and timelines.

- Truty reminded the board: TLMFPD is still awaiting approval from the Town of Monument for the annexation of the property at Station 1 into the town.
- The board previously approved \$750,000 for the remodel, and any additional funding would be available from future expected capital reserve funds in 2020.
- The Master Plan presented at the April board meeting recommended that Station 1 should be the least likely to be moved in the future and worth making a longerterm investment.
- Voting for the Station 1 remodel would make that current location permanent.
- Palmer Lake is not having a ballot initiative for its Fire Department this November, and so we will continue doing what we are doing in our planning.

See www.ocn.me/v19n4. htm#tlmfpd and www.ocn.me/ v19n7.htm#tlmfpd. The Master Plan document is available for viewing and download at www.tlmfire.org/news.

The board approved 5-0 for TLMFPD to proceed with Plan A for a total cost of \$1.5

### **Investment policy**

Truty asked the board to consider adopting an investment policy now that TLMFPD has capital to invest. Treasurer John Hildebrandt advised that there are rules for investing government funds and only guaranteed returns on public investments are permissible. TLMFPD's attorney, Maureen Juran, said it would be wise to adopt an investment policy within the confines of the statutory provisions that govern the management of public funds. Juran offered to work with the district but suggested a financial advisor would be more appropriate.

The board approved 5-0 for the fire chief and the treasurer to evaluate and develop a district policy for making short-term investments with district funds for the purpose of greater financial returns, in time for the September board meeting.

**Board member vacancy** Truty said Shirk had announced he will be leaving TLMFPD after the September meeting, so this vacancy will be filled by appointment and the appointee will serve until the next regular election in May 2020.

The required qualifications are listed at http://tlmfire.org/board.

# Chief will speak with **Colorado Springs**

Truty discussed mutual aid be-

tween the district and American Medical Response (AMR) with the board. Hildebrandt voiced his concern about the abuse of TLMFPD crews who are often called out for mutual aid on behalf of AMR, only to be cancelled during a response in the middle of the night.

Secretary Mike Smaldino, who is also a Colorado Springs firefighter, said AMR is "not hiring" and instead is using outside fire district crews to ensure it meets requirements that, if unmet, incur a fine of \$300 per call. It seems they would rather pay a fine than hire more personnel and are simply stopping the clock, he said. Truty said that to date AMR has paid \$325,000 in fines, and Colorado Springs is currently negotiating a contract with Falck, the world's largest international provider of emergency medical transportation. Vice President Roger Lance said that unfortunately, TLMFPD crews deployed to Colorado Springs are further dispatched and unable to return to the district due to increased call volumes that AMR cannot meet.

Truty said he would speak with the Colorado Springs Fire Department chief with regard to mutual aid calls with AMR. A meeting is scheduled for the end of August with five other transport agencies to discuss a solution to the problems arising with a new ambulance contract service and the existing mutual aid agreement.

Truty also said a new funding stream will soon be available from the federal government whenever TLMFPD transports Medicaid patients. The average Medicaid refund could increase revenue for the next three to four years by \$250,000.

# Training update

Battalion Chief of Training Jonathon Bradley gave the following training update:

- Paramedic training-A six-hour basic EKG course was created by paramedic Jay Bruchis to support the online class version, a pre-requisite for Paramedic Training School.
- A weeklong wildland drill took place west of Jackson Creek Parkway with the entire North Group.
- Chipper training was provided to all three shifts by the manufacturer of the recently purchased chipper.
- Kaiser Permanente Insurance provided training for all three shifts on harassment. During the past month a few incidents involving harassment had occurred within TLMFPD.
- Dr. Timothy R. Hurtado of Penrose-St. Francis Health Services provided medical case reviews to staff online.
- A four-hour workshop on Peer Support Training provided by The Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance was hosted by TLM-FPD for multi-agencies to

