

**HANOVER PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT
FOREIGN FIRE TAX COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
Station 15, 6850 Barrington Road
Hanover Park, IL 60133**

**Monday, June 9, 2025
8:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am by Chairman Justin McWilliams

Roll Call:

PRESENT: Treasurer Ethan Gibbons, Secretary Ariel Barraza, Trustee Pete Rossberg, Trustee Richard Cruise, Trustee Rosa Gonzales, Chief Eric Fors

ABSENT: None

Quorum established.

ALSO PRESENT: Guests – D/C Nicholson, FF/PM Matt Baran, Jodi Hefler

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Motion by Treasurer Gibbons and seconded by Trustee Rossberg to accept the agenda.

All in favor. Motion carried.

3. PRESENTATIONS

NONE

4. TOWN HALL SESSION

Persons wishing to address the public body must register prior to the Call to Order. Please note that public comment is limited to 5 minutes.

NONE

5. TREASURER REPORT

a. Dated June 5, 2025

Treasurer Ethan Gibbons presented the **June 5, 2025**, Treasurer report; current account balance of \$269,291.63.

Total Expenditures to date: \$4,800 (Stretch Lab \$3,300; JLT Photograph \$1,500)

Chief Fors asked for clarification on why higher bid for SIM Man from World Point was chosen; Chairman McWilliams clarified that World Point is the EMS Preferred Vendor due to warranty issues.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Trustee Cruise.

All in favor. Motion Carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Treasurer Gibbons to approve the minutes from the March 3, 2025, meeting, seconded by Trustee Rossberg.

All in favor. Motion carried.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Company Patches: Trustee Cruise is working on designing company patches utilizing Canva and Chat GPT. Still in progress.
- b. Training Facility: Chief Fors reported that the Training Facility is being added to the next Strategic Plan for study and review.
- c. Station 15 Display: JLT Photography has completed the bulk of the photos and is in the process of printing; delay in printing due to question about name placement on the photos vs. on the photo board – names will be on the photos. Still a handful of staff that need to have photographs taken, D/C Nicholson will work with JLT Photography to arrange those photos.
- d. Water bottle, duffle bag, and laptop backpack: No headway at this point; suggested removing from agenda. Upon further discussion it was agreed to remain on the agenda and additional options will be explored with Fireground Supply as vendor.
- e. St. 16 (Fitness) Equipment and add-ons: No updates. Evaluating purchase of new treadmills vs. repair of current ones.
- f. Hose Testing Company: No updates
- g. All fire personal gym equipment: Trustee Gonzalez researched purchase of athletic shoes from Dick Pond Athletics for HPFD staff.
 - Dick Pond staff will go to each station to measure and gait test staff to find proper fit at no extra cost.
 - Shoe prices range from \$150 - \$250 each and orthotics range from \$60-\$80 per pair.

- Dick Pond offers tax-exempt purchases and 10% off regular price for fire departments.
- Dick Pond works with many local fire departments providing athletic shoe purchase programs.
- Discussion regarding who will be able to purchase the shoes: after much discussion it was decided the program will be offered to Chief Officers, Lieutenants, FF/PMs, FF/EMTs, Emergency Management Coordinator and Administrative Assistant.
- Purchase window will be open for 1 month during the year. Fittings will be set up for 3 days to accommodate each shift; if staff not able to attend, they will be able to go to the retail store for fittings.
- Question about adding athletic shoe purchases into the Uniform Budget. Chief Fors explained that this would have to be part of the next contract negotiations.

Motion by Chairman McWilliams for the purchase of shoes and orthotics, through Dick Pond Athletics, to include: \$250 for shoes (1 per person) and \$80 for orthotics (1 per person) to include all of the following personnel: The Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, the administrative assistant, the emergency manager coordinator, Battalion Chiefs, Lieutenants, FF/PMs, and FF/EMTs. Second by Trustee Rossburg.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Additional discussion regarding creating a Budget Amendment to move additional funds from the cash accounts into the Foreign Fire available funds budget to allow for future purchases during the 2025 budget year. This would not include the funds set aside for the Training Facility. Chief Fors suggested that the future purchases listed for the Budget Amendment be as detailed as possible for Finance Department approval.

- h. New Apparel (Carhart): Trustee Gonzalez obtained quotes from Fireground Supply with the assistance of B/C Chmielak. Options are ¼ zip sweatshirt; full zip sweatshirt; and 3 different coat styles.
 - It was decided that sweatshirts would be purchased but noted that they would not replace the job shirts.
 - Trustee Gonzalez will work with B/C Chmielak on the details of logo/patch and embroidery and placement of badge number.
 - Goal is to make purchase by August in order to receive sweatshirts by fall.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. New Fit Test Machine: B/C Chmielak: B/C Chmielak not present to discuss; Chief Fors indicated that this purchase should be a budget item included in the 2026 FY Budget requests due to the fact that the current machine is working and this would be a replacement expense.

- b. GlideScope – B/C Jasper and Rosa Gonzalez: Request to purchase 10” screens for ambulances and move current 7” screens to engines/squad.
 - Quotes were received for both sizes. For 10” screen there is an option to purchase pulse ox additions at a later time.
 - Question was raised regarding adding the GlideScope purchase to the EMS budget in 2026. Chief Fors stated that yes – it would be a good idea to add this purchase to the EMS budget for FY 2026.
 - Trustee Rossberg also noted that it would be a good idea to spend more time learning/training on the current scopes before purchasing new ones.
- c. Blankets/Baby Blankets (Illinois Fire Service Professionals organization – Jodi): Jodi explained that baby blankets with HPFD logo are available through IFSAP as a fundraiser which will have HPFD logo. Minimum order is 12 blankets (63”x 53”) at a cost of \$54.99 each.
 - Blankets will be given to all new babies born to HPFD staff.

Motion by Chairman McWilliams to purchase 20 baby blankets from Illinois Fire Service Professionals organization at the cost of \$54.99 per blanket. Second by Trustee Gonzalez.

All in favor. Motion carried.

- d. Stretch Lab – Potential renewal of contract – Rosa: Secretary Barraza sent out inquiry to staff regarding effectiveness of the Stretch Lab sessions. 30% of participants responded with positive feedback.
 - Stretch Lab provided a good baseline; many participants are continuing with exercises on their own.
 - Stretch Lab personnel have offered additional options for future activities/sessions, including yoga, personal training, weight training, etc.
 - Currently staff group workout sessions are being scheduled quarterly; discussion about bringing Stretch Lab personnel into those quarterly workout sessions to assist with workout plans.
 - Suggested to also check with HPFD Health and Wellness Committee to determine needs for department.
 - Trustee Gonzalez will research prices for the quarterly group workouts with Stretch Lab.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Treasurer Gibbons and seconded by Trustee Rossberg to adjourn the meeting.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45am.

NEXT MEETING DATE: September 8, 2025