

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

**Monday, September 8, 2025
8:00 a.m.**

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 8:09 am by Chairperson Justin McWilliams

Roll Call:

PRESENT: Chairperson McWilliams, Treasurer Ethan Gibbons, Secretary Ariel

Barraza, Trustee Rosa Gonzalez, Chief Eric Fors

ABSENT: Trustee Rick Cruise, Trustee Pete Rossberg

Quorum established.

ALSO PRESENT: DC Dan Nicholson, BC Brian Chmielak, Jodi Hefler

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

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

All in favor. Motion Carried.

3. PRESENTATIONS

NONE

4. TOWNHALL 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 September 3, 2025

Treasurer Ethan Gibbons presented the 9/3/2025 Treasurer report; current account balance of \$214,203.69.

Funds spent to date \$62,185.67.

Balance in 2025 Budget \$37,814.33.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Trustee Gonzalez and seconded by Treasurer Gibbons to approve the Treasurer report.

All in favor. Motion carried.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Meeting Minutes from June 9, 2025.

Motion by Chairperson McWilliams to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2025, meeting, seconded by Treasurer Gibbons

All in favor. Motion carried.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Company Patches: No Updates
- b. Training Facility: No Updates
- c. Station 15 Display: Photo board is complete and looks great. Ribbon Display case is still under discussion. Expected to be completed next spring.
- d. Water bottle, duffle bag, laptop backpack: BC Chmielak presented the options, information and pricing for a duffle bag and laptop backpack from Fireground Supply.

After discussion, it was proposed that:

- i. The duffle bag and backpack be issued under the HPFD Quartermaster system.
- ii. The program will be extended to all paid employees of the HPFD.
- iii. Employees can choose one or both items.
- iv. Name plates will be embroidered on Velcro patches so they can be removed if needed.

Motion by Chairperson McWilliams to approve the purchase of duffle bags and laptop backpacks from Fireground Supply for all paid Hanover Park Fire Department employees in an amount not to exceed \$13,000. Seconded by Trustee Gonzalez.

All in favor. Motion carried.

e. St. 16 (fitness) Equipment and Add-Ons

No updates on treadmill purchase or repair service on current treadmill. Chief Fors indicated that the department does have a maintenance agreement for all station fitness equipment and BC Jasper should be contacted to find out information on the agreement and possible repair of the current treadmill.

Further discussion to be made with Health and Fitness committee in regards of purchase/replace on old/used equipment as previously discussed in past meetings to close the current item on the agenda.

f. Hose Testing Company: No Updates

g. New apparel (Carhart): BC Chmielak presented the options, information and pricing for four (4) Carhart sweatshirts from Fireground Supply. BC Chmielak noted that the Maltese design for these items is a variation of the current HPFD patch. In addition:

- the lettering on the sweatshirts will be the same size as current HPFD items
- names and badge numbers will be on the sleeve
- prices are for S-XL; extra charges apply for sizes 2XL and up

Additional discussion included:

- Questions on switching from the current job shirt to the Carhart option in the future.
- If Quartermaster can include future purchase of these items into the system: BC Chmielak indicated that the future budget will not allow purchase of all 4 items for each individual; Option for possible Foreign Fire to supplement the purchase.

After discussion it was proposed that:

- i. The Carhart sweatshirts will be offered under the Quartermaster system.
- ii. The program will be offered to all paid employees of the Hanover Park Fire Department.
- iii. Employees have the choice of two (2) items.
- iv. Name and Badge Number will be embroidered on the right sleeve – due to Carhart emblem on the left sleeve.

Motion by Chairperson McWilliams to approve the purchase of two (2) Carhart sweatshirts per person from Fireground Supply for all paid Hanover Park Fire Department employees in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. Seconded by Trustee Gibbons.

Additional discussion: BC Chmielak asked if purchase orders could be created for these purchases for ease of ordering and payment. The Village Purchasing Policy requires purchase orders for all purchases made over \$10,000. Creation of purchase orders will be decided after the orders are compiled, and the total costs are calculated.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Blankets for bunk rooms: Trustee Gonzalez presented the idea of purchasing HPFD logo blankets for each bunk in both stations to make the sleeping areas more presentable for the Open House and other events where the public might tour the stations.

Additional discussions: Trustee Gonzalez stated that the blankets would not be used by personnel. They would be put away during regular business days. Questions arose about staff compliance and storage options. Chief Fors suggested the possibility of purchasing new mattress pads before events instead.

No motion was made for this purchase. This item will be removed from the next agenda.

- b. Metal shipping container: Trustee Gonzalez presented the idea of purchasing a metal shipping container to turn into a small training facility. This would be located at Station 15 in the small parking lot where the school bus current resides. She indicated that there are many different scenarios this could be used for as it is at surrounding departments.

Discussion included:

- i. Village restrictions on training facilities that include fire simulation in residential areas.
- ii. Questions regarding aesthetics, placement, uses were discussed.
- iii. The long term strategic goal currently being evaluated for a full training facility located in Hanover Park that would meet the Village requirements.

No motion was made for this purchase. The item will be removed from the next agenda.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Chairperson McWilliams and seconded by Trustee Gibbons to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12am.

NEXT MEETING DATE: December 1, 2025

