

PHILOMATH FIRE & RESCUE

April 17, 2025

Budget Committee Meeting

Location: Consumer Power Inc. 6990 W Hills Road, Philomath, OR 97370

6:30 pm

- I. ROLL CALL/ CALL TO ORDER- The Budget Committee Meeting was called to order at 18:39 by Office Administrator Ashley Scott. Board members present were Rick Brand, Ken Corbin, Joe Brier, and Doug Edmonds. Board member not present was Daphne Phillips. Budget Committee members present were Christopher McMorran, Jerry Wolcott, Van Hunsaker, Greg Phelps. Budget Committee member not present was Elsa Parmelee. Staff members present included Fire Chief Chancy Ferguson, Operations Chief Dan Eddy, and Office Administrator Ashley Scott. Other guests included Dan Kearl.

- II. Nominate Chairperson
Nomination was made by Doug Edmonds to have Rick Brand as our Board Committee Chairperson. Joe Brier seconded the nomination.
Voting results 8-0. Passes with a quorum present:
Edmonds: In Favor
Brand: In Favor
Corbin: In Favor
Brier: In Favor
McMorran: In Favor
Wolcott: In Favor
Hunsaker: In Favor

- III. Discussion- Chief Ferguson welcomed the committee and conveyed his appreciation for their willingness to serve the community in this capacity. Accomplishments by the district included (but not limited to) in the Budget Hearing Presentation document. The accomplishments included awarded Grants, completed our personnel handbook, SDAO Organizational Assessment, Full Resident Volunteer Program, AED Trainers, Continued Hoskins- Kings Valley Rural Fire Training Contract, building upgrades and improvements, vehicle repairs, Personnel Promotions and Additions, Conflagration record year for our department. Board President Edmonds discussed the benefit to the district for the opportunity for conflagrations to help add funding into the district budget for future expenditures.
Committee members were pleased with the fiscally responsible focus of purchasing the new vehicles and the ability to build and retain the reserve funds.

The Budget Message was discussed with the committee including the theme of this year is looking towards the people of our department. Also, an increased call volume continues to break records- year after year. The City of Philomath's Urban Renewal District costs our District \$82,318 per year.

Administrative Program- Scott discussed the items included in the Administrative Program. Transfers from the General Fund to Reserves are noted within this program. Discussions included increases in Insurance, Dues, Fees & Subscriptions, Utilities, Communications, and Length of Service Awards.

EMS Program- Chief Ferguson noted that increased call volume and increased vendor pricing (with the potential of additional tariff pricing) necessitate the increase in the supply budget. The purchase of pediatric medical bags was also discussed.

Suppression Program- Ops Chief Eddy discussed this program's slight increase and upgrading our small tools. Sticking with the same brand that can swap batteries this added increased versatility.

Safety Program- Ops Chief Eddy discussed this program. Uniforms and PPE are supplied. Physicals continue to increase per person.

Training Program- Chief Ferguson discussed this program. This program included all the needs of training our crews. Resident Volunteer reimbursements are also included in this line item. There is a decrease in this line item due to a reallocation of funds into Personnel to better fund training our personnel inhouse.

Community Risk Reduction- Chief Ferguson discussed this program. Beginning to market classes on our social media pages and building that program more and more.

Response Technology- Ops Chief Eddy discussed this program. Radios for vehicles and handhelds that need to be updated and transitioned to newer technology for the safety of our crew.

Buildings & Grounds- Ops Chief Eddy discussed this program. Object its to maintain and improve our facilities. Clean, professional and safe are the

standards that we strive to uphold. No major projects are happening this budget year.

Vehicle & Equipment- Ops Chief Eddy discussed this program. Conducting annual service on vehicles and equipment. Tires and aging apparatus are an area of focus and something to watch closely in the future. A lot of our maintenance can be completed in house which helps tremendously with this line item. NFPA standard is 10 years- we are at that limit on at least three apparatus that we need to update soon.

Personnel- Chief Ferguson discussed that Personnel is our largest expenditure and our greatest asset. Having the two additional staff members has made us a better responding asset for our community. There are two paid staff members per shift (24 hours per day). Conflagration personnel were increased and will cancel out with the incoming and outgoing expenditures. The experience that crews achieve while on conflagrations is valuable to our district and the crew members individually. The Resident Volunteer Program is an asset to our district and all the participants.

Bond Funds- Chief Ferguson discussed that we are nearing the end of our Bond obligation, year 9 of 10. The collected taxes are collected and utilized solely for repayment of that bond. The future may lead toward a Levy for future expenses and additional personnel expenses.

General Fund Resources and Expenditures- Chief Ferguson and Scott discussed the utilization of the same conservative method of budgeting that was utilized in the current fiscal year. This document outlines the financial documents in spreadsheet form with the information from the prior pages. Carryover was discussed by the Budget Committee and the variety of ways this can be utilized.

Reserves- Chief Ferguson discussed the Training Facility priorities for the upcoming budget. In the interim, we have been reaching out to local landowners and schools for training opportunities. There has already been a soft decision on style of facility and treading carefully to make the correct decision of location that will be best for now and future district planning. There is also funding allocated for turnouts and saving for SCBA future replacements.

Edmonds moved to approve the budget as proposed by the budget officer and it will be moved to the Fire Board. Wolcott seconded.

Voting results 9-0. Passes with a quorum present:

Edmonds: In Favor

Brand: In Favor

Corbin: In Favor

Brier: In Favor

McMorran: In Favor

Phelps: In Favor

Wolcott: In Favor

Hunsaker: In Favor

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

V. ADJOURNMENT- 20:21.