

Minutes for a Regular Meeting on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 12:00 pm at 8305 Augusta Road Pelzer, SC 29669.

Sabrina Bedingfield asked Donnie Freeman to open with prayer. Sabrina Bedingfield called the meeting to order. Chief Sutherland asked to amend the Agenda to include New Business: Potential Purchase of a Vehicle. Donnie Freeman motioned to amend the Agenda as requested by Chief Sutherland. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

Everyone reviewed the minutes. Jim Darby motioned to approve the minutes. John Jennings seconded it. All were in favor.

Everyone reviewed the Financial Statements. Jennifer Adams reviewed the June Financial Reports first. She reviewed the changes in the balance sheet where the majority of the operating money had been moved to LGIP where it was earning more interest. Chief Sutherland reminded everyone that we are trying to get our Reserve Account to \$1,000,000.00 and then we will have other ideas of what to do with our \$10,000.00 each month. Donnie Freeman asked if we should put the \$250,000.00 in the LGIP. Chief Sutherland told everyone that it was up to the Board to decide that. It would earn more interest there. John Jennings said he agrees with Donnie Freeman. All of the other Commissioners were in favor of moving the money. Donnie Freeman asked the staff if that money was moved to LGIP how much money would they feel comfortable with keeping in Southern First. The staff agreed on \$400,000.00 for operations. Donnie Freeman motioned to move the \$250,000.00 in the CIP Account to LGIP and keep \$400,000.00 in Southern First for Operating. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor. Jennifer Adams reviewed the check report for June and Assistant Chief Joel Finley reviewed Spartan bills in detail to explain the individual repairs on each truck. The July Financial Reports were reviewed. Once again for July Assistant Chief Finley reviewed the Spartan bills in detail to review the repairs on each truck.

Chief Sutherland started the staff reports by telling everyone that we have listed Old Rescue-80 with Brindlee Mountain for sale. We have had an inquiry but no offers at this time. The staff is currently working on the FY2024 budget. The preliminary budget for FY2024 will be presented next month so that any changes, deletions, additions, etc. can be made so it can be voted on and approved in the upcoming meetings. The Public Hearing will be held in December as usual. There is a group of guys that are exploring the 48/96 schedule. This led to us looking into how to pay on this schedule so we asked several departments on this schedule how they paid, and found more questions. Chief Sutherland said that he reached out to Ginny Dupont at Tally Law Firm only to find out that she is now the County Attorney for Lancaster County. We then called the Department of Labor and received clarification about our employees because they fall under the 7K exemption under FLSA. There will be a presentation given to the all of the shifts and a vote will be taken by the committee to see if shift personnel are interested in a trial period. If the trial period passes it will be January through June of next year. After the trial period, there will be a vote to stay on 48/96 or to go back to 24/48. John Jennings asked for the pros and cons of the schedule. Chief Sutherland said he has asked the committee to also present to the board so they can see the same information the firefighters are getting. Donnie Freeman asked about the guys that do not want to work this schedule and the ones that may leave our department if we change. Chief Sutherland explained there will be an escape clause so that Chief Sutherland can make the shifts go back to the 24/48 schedule if they see the need to do so at any time for any reason. There is a very high percentage that must vote in favor to do the trial period and the firefighters asked to not know what it is. The 2023 Millage Certification that was in your package has been signed by Chairperson Sabrina Bedingfield. We have no changes in our millage, nor did we issue any new bonds for the 2023 year. The SPD Conference will be October 18, 2023 through October 20, 2023. Please let Jennifer Adams know if you will be attending by Friday so she can make reservations. She also needs to know if anyone will be attending with you. Friday afternoon Engine -75A was sideswiped on Highway 247 by a truck that crossed the yellow line. It broke the mirror on the truck. It was not our driver's fault. We have fixed our mirror and submitted the proper paperwork to our insurance company. The sign at Station 73 was damaged during one of the storms over the last few days. A new one has been ordered. The brag for this meeting is actually one of our Commissioners. Jimmy Brashier was on vacation on a cruise and another passenger in the dining room was choking. Jimmy Brashier did the Heimlich Maneuver three times on the man and saved his life. Chief Sutherland showed updated pictures of new Engine-77 and Engine-80.

Assistant Chief Finley said the call volume for June was 246 and for July was 277 and that brings the total to 1,819 for the year. We have had a lot of repairs over the past two months that were reviewed with the check reports. Car-80A has no timeline for the replacement of the engine. Platform-77 is out of service with fuel issues and they think it is the pick-up tube. New Engine-75 equipment has been showing up and we are placing it on the current truck to upgrade the response capability in their area. The new extrication equipment has already been used on a call since we are doing this which improves the service delivery in their area.

Jennifer Adams said that we had reviewed the information about LGIP in the Financial Review.

Paul Horn said the clearing for Zaxby's and Starbucks has started. He also said that Circle K is looking at property at Augusta Road and Donaldson Road.

Jessica Phillips said that she hired a new dispatcher and has been training her. She would be ready to start night shift this week on her own.

#### New Business

- I. Chief Sutherland said that there is one of the old South Greenville Trucks online for sale. It is a 1974 F750 Bean. South Greenville refurbished it in 1999. We could use it as a parade truck or museum truck. We would have to transport it down here. It was donated by us to a rural department in Tennessee several years back. The current owner bought it to make it a hauler, but never changed it over. It has been listed for sale for over a year and the price has been dropped multiple times. Chief Sutherland offered him \$8,000.00 for it and he said yes, even though it is listed for \$12,000.00. John Jennings said we are just going to have to spend money on it. We will have to pay insurance and taxes and up keep on it. Chief Sutherland said if we do not buy it will end up in the scrap yard. He said we are busy right now but, in several years, it would be great to have it for the future for parades and possibly a museum piece. Donnie Freeman motioned not to purchase the truck. John Jennings seconded it. Jimmy Brashier and Jim Darby were against it. Sabrina Bedingfield voted against it to break the tie. The result was South Greenville Fire District will purchase the truck for \$8,000.00. Jimm Brashier asked to see what the wrecker bill would be and to see if we could get the price lowered. Chief Sutherland said he would do his best. John Jennings motioned to adjourned. Jimmy Brashier seconded it. All were in favor.

Minutes recorded by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer L. Adams, Administrative Specialist

