

for.”

Shirk said, “So what you’re saying is that the other board would take all the candidates and narrow that down to a group of three that would then come before the board.” Lance said, “Right, and then the board would have some things that we would agree upon prior to the interview and would be a whole board interview and then the whole board would, as a group, select the one candidate as a chief. That’s just me speaking and again, I’m open.”

Lance said the public should be informed “as much

as possible” about the selection process. “As far as the questions, I mean how we’re gonna do the interview, we do that as a personnel thing within an executive (secret) session,” he said.

Jack informed the board that the Personnel Manual lays out the entire process for recruitment, interviews, and all the procedures associated with the hiring process. He noted that it was geared more toward firefighters, but there is a pretty substantial process and the board might capitalize on that.

Lovato suggested the standards of the qualification process laid out by Lance possibly were too high. He suggested talking to fire chiefs who might provide a standard for a community such as the Tri-Lakes area.

Lance said three chiefs had told him his qualification process was “a good start.” Shirk said he wanted to see the battalion chiefs spend some time on Lance’s proposal.

Several months ago, Lance had indicated at a board meeting that he would prefer to have an outsider come in to the district.

Director Rod Wilson suggested that ordinary citizens might be considered as a part of the oral board. Lance vehemently opposed that concept, saying, “I was trying to keep it at a level, at a high level without getting it down into the weakest...” Lance did not complete that sentence. Lance said that the two citizen board members he had proposed would not vote (as oral board members) but was quickly corrected by Shirk, who stated that these citizens would have a vote in the selection of the three final candidates that will go before the district board.

Financial report

Hildebrandt reported that the district had received \$2.9

million or 98.52 percent of the budgeted 2012 property tax revenue through October, which was ahead of the budget schedule. The district had received \$230,947 in specific ownership tax revenue, or 92.62 percent of the budget schedule. Ambulance revenues were at \$407,551 or 74.10 percent of the budget schedule. No mention was made of last month’s in-arrears Medicare payments and whether they were still unpaid.

Hildebrandt said two expenditure items were over budget on an annual basis. The salary and uniforms line items were over budget 1.12 percent and 1.87 percent, respectively. Overall, the expense side of the annual budget was at 82.23 percent or 1.10 percent under budget. Lease payments were all paid on time.

He then formally notified the board that the mill levy increase proposal (5C) had been approved in the election. Asked whether the administrative budget would remain on target, he replied that with the pending legal fees, it would not. He did state that the overall budget would be in line with expectations.

In response to another question, Hildebrandt said the district has a residual left in the reserve budget that could be used to finance the search for a new chief. He asked if there would be costs for the search before the end of the year. Battalion Chief Bryan Jack said there would be an advertising expense but he felt that it would not be that significant. Hildebrandt said, “we may or may not have to make an amendment to the budget in December.” The treasurer’s report was then unanimously accepted.

Board Secretary Rod Wilson, speaking for board Vice President Bill Ingram, who was out of town, acknowledged the passage of mill levy 5C and thanked the citizens for its passage. He also thanked the staff for the effort that they exhibited, and the union for its assistance in the work required to “pull this forward.” He also thanked the press for its role in “explaining to the people what we needed.”

Wilson said no district funds were expended in the effort to pass 5C. A union member said that the union had allocated \$10,000 and had spent \$6,000 of that in the effort to pass 5C.

Tactical rescue teams

Shirk talked about the integration of police and firefighters in tactical rescue teams and asked board members about the status of this concept. He noted that the Monu-

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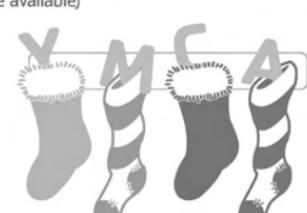
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