

CASS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 1
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
April 12, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

The Cass County Fire District 1 (CCFD1) Board met at 6:00 p.m. at Cass County Fire District 1 Station at 1444 Holland Street, Logansport, Indiana. Meeting was called to order by Chairman; Bridget Enyeart. Members also present were Dave Patty and Lori Forrer.

GUIDELINES OF MEETING

Chairman Bridget Enyeart read the public notice disclosure to incur indebtedness to the taxpayers of Eel, Noble, and Clay. The Board of Trustees provided an agenda and outlined how the meeting was going to be conducted. Each member of the public was given a copy of the Notice to Taxpayers, an agenda, public documents disclosure statement, various newspaper articles, HB 1072, Public Disclosure Statement regarding the budget for 2012 and amount needed for CCFD1 to operate, information regarding constituents and area served by CCFD1, and an estimated tax rate for the cost of the emergency loan.

DISCUSSION WITH THE PUBLIC REGARDING LOAN

Chairman, Bridget Enyeart recognized New Waverly Fire Department for continuing to provide services to CCFD1 even though the district has only paid a small percentage of their contract for 2012. New Waverly Fire continues to provide excellent service to our constituents of Eel, Noble, and Clay and the Board is proud to have them serving in that capacity and representing CCFD1.

Chairman, Bridget Enyeart also recognized Mayor Teddy Franklin. The Mayor has been in contact with the board since the State rejected our budget and has indicated that he is willing to help CCFD1, in whatever capacity we see fit. He has personally guaranteed that if our budget problems are not worked out, the city would ensure the constituents of Eel, Noble, and Clay Townships will not go without critical emergency services and fire protection. Bridget thanked Mayor Franklin and Logansport Fire Department for this commitment and indicated that she hoped the headlines of the past would go away and we could work together on a plan for combined services and mutual aid for the future.

Chairman, Bridget Enyeart discussed the Indiana Code regarding fire districts and the amount of money each township brought to the table to create the fire district and build a fire station. The 2012 operating budget was disclosed and discussed.

Chairman, Bridget Enyeart also covered House Bill 1072 that was created by Former State Senator Tom Weatherwax, State Senator Randy Head, and Representative Bill Friend. This bill was pushed through by our representatives at the State to help Cass County Fire District create a solution to fund its operating budget for 2012. Bridget thanked Mr. Weatherwax for helping CCFD1. This piece of legislation is the board's final attempt at getting the funds necessary to pay for contractual commitments as promised for 2012, and for all other obligations as indicated by our 2012 budget. Bridget reviewed all of the contracts that were signed in November, 2011, (payable in 2012).

Bridget outlined the amount of the 2012 budget, how much operating cash was available as of December 31, 2011, how much the DLGF has allowed the townships of Eel, Noble, and Clay to levy for fire protection under their respective budgets for 2012. Bridget explained the estimated tax draw together with circuit breaker losses for each township of the fire district.

After discussing in great detail the amount of the current budget and the amount of the projected estimated revenue for 2012, Cass County Fire District disclosed that it would need to borrow approximately \$368,082. For an estimated loan amount of \$370,000 at approximately 4%, the total loan amount borrowed would cost the taxpayers approximately \$389,833. The interest rate could be less, depending on the current market. The house bill did not specify the terms of the loan period for the fire district. It did however reference IC 36-8-11-17, which discusses bonds for the fire district. The emergency loan must be obtained before House Bill 1072 expires on December 31, 2014.

On a \$100,000 mortgaged homestead home, the cost of this loan would be approximately \$61.19 for the year, which is approximately \$5.10 per month. If the emergency loan were to be paid back over a one year period, the estimated impact for a tax rate would be an additional \$0.2227 on top of the regular tax levy for next year. All items discussed were included in the public disclosure packet passed out to all individuals that attended the meeting.

STATEMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Cass County Fire District opened the floor up to public questions. Constituents were asked to state their name for the record and what township they reside. Public Members with statements and questions included:

1. Rick Rhoades, 3402 Perrysburg Road, Logansport, IN, Clay Township.
2. Tom Weatherwax, 3012 Woodland Drive Logansport, IN, Clay Township
3. Warren Scott Shively, 2510 N. Hillside Drive, Logansport IN, Clay Township
4. Walter E. Harris 37 East Co. Rd. 100 North, Logansport, IN, Noble Township
5. Milt Hess, 822 Lakeview Drive, Logansport, IN 46947, Clay Township
6. Rick Schroeder, 1490 N. State Road 25, Logansport, IN, Clay Township
7. Brent Kelly, 5530 E. Co. Rd. 575 N, Twelve Mile, IN, Adams (Not in Cass Co. Fire District)
8. Bob Wildermuth, 2123 Westgate Drive, Logansport, IN Clay Township
9. Scott Homburg, 7676 E. Co. Rd. 625 N, Twelve Mile, IN, Adams (Not in Cass Co. Fire District)
10. Mark Strong, 716 Hawthorne Lane, Logansport, IN, Clay Township
11. Dave Strong, 711 16th Street, Logansport, IN, (Not in Cass Co. Fire District)
12. Chris Cover, 1833 W. Co. Rd. 400 North, Logansport, IN
13. James Mayhill, 2604 S. US Hwy 35, Logansport, IN Washington Township (Not in Cass Co. Fire District)
14. Karl Myer, 2125 N. Court Street, Logansport, IN, Noble Township
15. Grover Bishop, 417 Montgomery St., Logansport, IN, (Not in Cass Co. Fire District)
16. Rex Danely, 2111 Jefferson Street, Logansport, IN, (Not in Cass Co. Fire District)

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION AND VOTE

The Resolution regarding the Emergency Loan for Cass County Fire District 1 was read by Chairman, Bridget Enyeart. Discussion was called and portions of the resolution were re-read. The resolution was adjusted to the actual estimated amount of \$368,083. Bridget called final discussion for the board. No further discussion was made. Dave Patty made a motion to accept the resolution with the adjusted estimated loan amount in the amount of \$368,083 to be forwarded to the Cass County Council for their consideration. Lori Forrer seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.**

SECOND MEETING DISCLOSURE

Bridget Enyeart, Chairman indicated the meeting with Cass County Council will be on April 20, 2011, at 9:00 a.m. The resolution will be forwarded to the Cass County Council and the public meeting will be advertised by the Board of Trustees of Cass County Fire District #1.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget I. Enyeart

Bridget I. Enyeart, Chairman