LEGAL NOTICE

WARNING

SHAKER PINES FIRE DISTRICT # 5

ENFIELD, CT.

May 13, 2025

**Present:** President Peter G. Burk, Clerk Margaret Guyette, Treasurer Scott Wyllie, Commissioner Peter Burk, Chief James Nolan, Deputy Chief Edward Prajzner and 20 taxpayers

ARTICLE I **To nominate and elect a moderator of the meeting.** President Burk read the Articles. Jolene Bauckman nominated President Burk to be the moderator for the meeting and Commissioner Burk seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimous*.*

ARTICLE II **To nominate and to elect one person to the Board of Fire Commissioners for one, five-year term, for the forthcoming fiscal years.**

Per the By-Laws, we had one person apply ahead of time for the commissioner position: Peter G. Burk. As there was no vote necessary, President Burk asked the secretary to cast one ballot for Peter G. Burk.

ARTICLE III **To hear the reports of the District Officers.**

President Burk read his report that was in the handout to the taxpayers. Chief Nolan read his report from the handout. Deputy Chief Prajzner, as a member of the Consolidation Committee, read his report on the current status of the Committee. A copy of which was also in the handout to the taxpayers.

ARTICLE IV **To determine the financial requirements, debts, and expenses of the forthcoming fiscal year, approve the annual budget, adopt a mill rate and authorize the use of the district savings to fund the amount not covered by the mill rate. To authorize the expenditure of funds in accordance with the proposed appropriations as needed during the forthcoming fiscal year.**

 Martha Ramos made a motion to accept the Article as read and Charles Macsata seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimous. Charlie Macsata asked if there was going to be an increase in the tax rate of 4.0. PresidentBurk stated the rate would stay the same, even with the increase in the budget. We will use savings to cover any shortfall.

ARTICLE V **To authorize the Board of Fire Commissioners to make intra-budget transfers from available unexpended balances of budget items to anticipated over-expended budget items if the same becomes necessary.**

 A motion was made by Charles Macsata to accept the article as written and Leslie Cunningham made a second to the motion. A vote was taken to accept the Article and it was unanimous. Hank Wanczyk asked if we can go over the budget and President Burk stated that we cannot go over the total budget and any monies left at the end of the year goes back into the general fund. Hank Wanczyk asked how much was left over from last year and could we use that to pay down the debt? Treasurer Scott Wyllie stated that last year our expenditures were $ 185,000 less than the income we received. The difference went into the General Fund. Those funds are encumbered for different funds needed in the future. President Burk stated that we have had a full audit the past several years and no problems were found. It is our tax dollars also, so we do not spend it on unneeded expenses.

ARTICLE VI **To authorize the District Fire Commissioners to encumber funds, not to exceed $ 15,000.00, for the Hydrant Replacement Fund from the district saving accounts and to encumber the balance left in the 2024-25 budget under the Hydrant Maintenance line to the Hydrant Replacement Fund.**

 A motion was made by Charles Macsata to accept the article as written and Ed Prajzner made a second to the motion. A vote was taken on the Article and it was unanimous. Hank Wanczyk asked what the balance of the account is currently. It was explained to him that if a hydrant is damaged and we cannot find the person, we will have to pay for it. The estimated cost for one hydrant to be installed is $ 15,000.

 All maintenance is done by the employees twice a year. If the hydrant needs repairs, then an outside company is called in.

ARTICLE VII **To authorize the District Fire Commissioners to encumber funds, not to exceed $ 27,000.00, for future expenses regarding the consolidation services from the district saving accounts.**

 A motion was made by Ed Prajzner to accept the article as written and Chris Davis made a second to the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimous. Hank Wanczyk asked how much we have spent on this. President Burk replied it was $ 20,800 last year and $ 30,000 prior to that.

 Charles Macsata questioned the fact that we have this encumbered account and monies in the budget. We explained that each of the four departments was going to be starting the year with $ 50,000 available in their budgets.

ARTICLE VIII **Any 2024-2025 budget balance (excluding the Hydrant Maintenance line) will be transferred to district’s saving accounts at the discretion of the district commissioners.**

 A motion was made by Ed Prajzner to accept the article as written and Chris Davis made a second to the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimous.

ARTICLE IX **To make recommendations to the Board of Fire Commissioners for future considerations.**

 Hank Wanczyk stated that the department was doing a good job.

 Charles Macsata suggested that we consider having a solar farm at the Training Facility we own. Chief stated that we will look into that, after the consolidation is complete and it is known what the property will be used for. Chris Davis stated that all five departments are paying for the expenses of the Training Facility.

 Leslie Cunningham suggested that we put the new mil rate in the notice.

ARTICLE X **To adjourn the meeting.**

 A motion was made by Charlie Macsata to adjourn the meeting and Leslie Cunningham made a second to the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimous. The meeting ended at 7:33 p.m.

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##  Peter G. Burk– President

 Guy Beck – Vice President

 Margaret Guyette – Commissioner/Clerk

 Scott Beiler – Commissioner

 Peter Burk - Commissioner