

City of Lafayette
Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the
New Carlton Fire District Board and Lafayette City Council
November 15, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Pekkola and Mayor Sproul called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.
2. **ROLL CALL:** City Administrator Preston Polasek called the Roll of the City of Lafayette Council:
Present via Zoom: Mayor Marie Sproul, Christine Brungardt, Kayla Paulsen
Present: Greg Goularte
Excused: Lee Gilgan,
Not Present: Sheila Neuman, James Drebin
NCFD Board Present: Larry Pekkola, Scott Bernards, Ken Wright and Allen Sitton
City Staff Present: Preston Polasek, City Administrator; Kevin Perkins, Assistant City Administrator; Chief Terry Lucich
Others: Travis Johnson; Sheldon Gilbert, ESCI

3. **ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM AGENDA**
None.

4. **PRESENTATION and DISCUSSION:** Emergency Services Consulting, International Sheldon Gilbert from ESCI presented the Fire Service Consolidation Study report using a PowerPoint presentation, which is attached. The scenarios modeled do not include the Dayton Fire District; they have opted not to participate. Dayton does not believe the proposed staffing justifies a new levy on its residents. Overall, Gilbert stated that the levy rate would need to be between 1.5 and 2 mills, with the lower end of that range being unsustainable over time. Councilor Brungardt asked whether the consultant team had determined a final levy in dollars per thousand; any levy from the consolidation would be an increased tax burden to Lafayette residents. Gilbert replied that it has been modeled, but the final amount will be determined by which jurisdictions choose to join. Each of the jurisdictions have different fiscal situations so that would be taken into account when calculating the proposed levy rate. There will be no further immediate cost to the jurisdictions to take the issue to the voters in November 2022.

President Brungardt asked about the tax impacts per jurisdiction. Sheldon mentioned that the funding scenarios for each jurisdiction will be provided to Chief Lucich for distribution. Councilor Paulsen asked why the Dayton Rural Fire District had dropped out of the process. Sheldon did not know the exact reason, but suspected that Dayton did not feel that they could sell the idea to their voters. Mayor Sproul stated her concern that a new district board could decide to build new stations that all the residents would have to pay for.

The NCFD Board expressed concerns over public perception and the addition or increase of a fire levy on their constituents. A substantial increase to the tax rate may be difficult to sell to voters in their district. There will also be concerns over maintaining the promised level of

staffing and ensuring that the rural areas receive enhanced service. The question of the governance structure was also raised by the Council and Fire Board. Gilbert stated that the two methods are having the board be entirely at-large or districted; either way it is likely to be dominated by McMinnville as the population center of the proposed district.

Consensus of the Board and the City Council was to continue participation. ESCI will make their next presentation at a meeting on November 18, 2021 in McMinnville. At that time, a draft IGA and further information will be provided to attendees to take back to their respective jurisdictions for review.

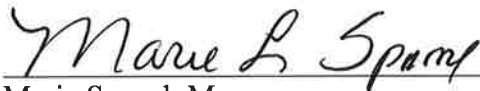
5. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Brungardt moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Paulsen seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

Minutes approved on 9th day of December, 2021.

CERTIFIED:

ATTESTED:



Marie Sproul, Mayor



Kevin Perkins, Assistant City Administrator