



**MINUTES
CITIZEN BOND COMMITTEE
FARMERS BRANCH MANSKE LIBRARY
13613 WEBB CHAPEL ROAD
FARMERS BRANCH, TEXAS 75234
MARCH 3, 2016
7:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Chairperson Michelle Holmes, Tamara Cleghorn, Bronson Blackson, Rodger Cramer, Colin Eddy, Jorge Gonzalez, David Merritt, John Speed, Michael Driskill, , Martina De Los Santos, , Marcus Miller, Meredith MacLeod, Nic Rady, Vincent Montenegro, James Webb, Tim Yarbrough

Members Absent: Joan O'Shea

Staff Present: Shawna Eikenberry, Management Analyst, Chief Steve Parker, Deputy Chief Gabe Vargas, Battalion Chief Steve Lamar, and Deputy Chief Tim Dedear.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Michelle Holmes called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion made by Michael Driskill to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2016 Citizen Bond Committee meeting. Motion seconded by Bronson Blackson. *Motion approved unanimously.*

3. DISCUSSION OF FIRE STATION #2 FACILITY AND LOCATION

Fire Chief Steve Parker presented construction plans, land updates and projected costs to replace Fire Station #2 located at 3940 Spring Valley Road. Chief Parker stated the existing station is 42 years old, built in 1974 on one acre with a current staff of five. He cited the national standard for the response time to fire calls in 6 minutes 20 seconds and Farmers Branch meets that standard 72.2% of the time. EMS calls are responded to within 4 minutes 90% of the time while the national standard is 6 minutes and the majority of EMS calls come from the Farmers Branch jail. Chief Parker reported the new InTec consolidated dispatch system installed in February and shared with Irving, Coppel and Addison has improved calls received by stations to under 1 minute from 1 minute 30 seconds. He said response times would continue to improve as they work out hiccups in the system. Chief Parker's report included research data from March to October 2012 analyzing call volume and response time to determine best location for a new station. Other impacting factors discussed included proximity to homeowners, land availability and traffic restrictions. The Committee discussed five acres of land located near Brookhaven College at the Alpha Link and Valley View as a probable location to build a new station because it does not have a negative impact on neighbors due to noise and better flex control of entry and exit of station due to it's proximity to multiple traffic lanes and to an existing parking lot allowing separate entry and exit similar to Station 1. Chief Parker said that location would improve response times because it would eliminate traffic congestion from Addison currently experienced at the Spring Valley location. Chief Parker stated also that the Fire Department continues to monitor population changes, development and

increase in demands that may impact our decisions in the future. The projected construction costs for a new station in 2016 are \$4.9 million. In 2018, that cost is projected to be \$5.5 million.

4. TOUR FIRE STATION #1

The Committee toured Fire Station #1 and Chief Parker reported that the new station positively impacted homeowners' insurance rates and Farmers Branch is positioned to move up from a 2 rating to a 1 rating in the near future. Station #1 has a current staff of 6 to 11.

5. TOUR FIRE STATION #2

The Committee toured Fire Station #2 and noted several problems facing staff in an aging facility: Cracks in walls, repaired leaking roof after flooding, aging kitchen appliances, no room for growth to meet increasing demands in the future. Chief Parker stated a new station would be strategically located with other Farmers Branch stations to meet shifting demands for the next 30 years. He said build time for a new station would be 6-8 months. This does not include time allowed for community input on design to go with neighborhood.

6. SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Citizen Bond Committee will meet Thursday, March 10 at 7 p.m., venue to be determined.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Colin Eddy. Motion seconded by Meredith Macleod. *Motion approved unanimously.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.


Chair

Attest:

Secretary