



KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO.16

7220 NE 181st Street
KENMORE, WA 98028

BUSINESS: 425-354-1780 FAX: 425-354-1781

MINUTES

April 23, 2024

SPECIAL MEETING BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS at Northshore Fire Department's Headquarters Station 51 and Virtual Meeting via Zoom

I. OPEN SPECIAL NORTHSHORE MEETING

1.1 Roll Call

Chair Lisa Wollum called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Persons in attendance were Commissioners Eric Adman, Tyler Byers, Rick Webster, and Lisa Wollum. Also present was Chief Matt Cowan, Legal Counsel Matt Paxton, Board Secretary Amy Oakley, and 0 members of the public. Commissioner Josh Pratt joined the meeting at 4:08 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

2.1 Written statement from David Maehren included in meeting materials and record.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Webster moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Byers seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

IV. RESOLUTION

4.1 Resolution 2024-02 Levy Lid Lift

Commissioner Byers moved to pass Resolution 2024-02 as presented. Commissioner Webster seconded. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.

- The Chief will coordinate the solicitation of nominations for individuals from the public to provide pro/con statements for the ballot pamphlet.
- Commissioner Josh Pratt joined the meeting.
- The Chief will provide a timeline for the pro/con statement timeline at the next meeting.

V. UPCOMING BOARD AGENDAS

5.1 Setting of Future Meeting Agenda(s)

The next meeting on May 7, 2024 meeting will include the standard agenda items as well as update from the subcommittee on Station 54 and subcommittee on outbuilding at Station 51, RFA Planning Committee, Fire Commissioner clothing update, status of the levy lid lift ballot measure. This meeting will be hybrid, on Zoom and in-person at Station 51.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:14PM.

Attachments: Agenda, Public Notice, Resolution 2024-02.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



ERIC ADMAN, Member

JOSH PRATT, Member



TYLER BYERS, Member

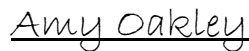


RICK WEBSTER, Member



LISA WOLLUM, Member

ATTEST



Amy Oakley, Secretary

King County Fire Protection District No. 16

Adopted at a Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners on May 7, 2024.



KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO.16

**7220 NE 181st Street
KENMORE, WA 98028**

BUSINESS: 425-354-1780 FAX: 425-354-1781

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

DATED April 4, 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 16, will be held via Zoom, and in-person at: Station #51, 7220 NE 181st Street, Kenmore, WA 98028, Tuesday the 23rd day of April 2024, at 4:00PM.

Meeting agenda posted separately.



Northshore Fire Department Board of Commissioners

Headquarters Station 7220 NE 181st Street, Kenmore, WA

Northshore Fire Department Board of Commissioners

Special Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

4:00PM

Meeting held virtually, via Zoom, and in-person at: Station #51, 7220 NE 181st Street, Kenmore, WA 98028

To provide public comment, please see instructions at the end of the agenda.

To attend this meeting live, click the link below and enter the ID & Password provided.

A recording of this meeting will also be posted in AV Capture.

Join Zoom Meeting Online at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85044713997?pwd=dW1uWDFpNldPZ1dSSU1ZYy9LSXVQQT09>

Call in to Zoom Meeting at: (253) 215-8782

Meeting ID: 850 4471 3997

Passcode: 743608

- I. Open Special Northshore Board Meeting**
 - 1.1 Roll Call
- II. Public Comment**
 - 2.1 Public Comment
- III. Approval of Agenda**
 - 3.1 Approval of the Meeting Agenda
- IV. Resolution**
 - 4.1 Resolution 2024-02 Levy Lid Lift
- V. Upcoming Board Agendas**
 - 5.1 Setting of Future Meeting Agenda(s)



VI. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, May 7th, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Public Comment Procedures for Virtual Meetings:

Individuals wishing to comment may comment by appearing at the virtual meeting and “raising their hand” or the equivalent. The chair shall recognize those persons and provide them the opportunity to comment. Three minutes are allowed for comment.

If you wish to provide written public comment, you may do so by submitting a written statement to boardsecretary@northshorefire.com. Any comments received up to one hour before the posted meeting time, will be read during the public comment period.

To ensure your written comments are received and read at the proper meeting, your email must include:

- Date & Time of the meeting your comments are intended for
- Your name
- Whether or not you live in the city limits of Lake Forest Park or Kenmore
- Agenda Item and/or subject your comments refer to

Emails without this information may not be read at the meeting. And, in accordance with normal procedure, messages of an overly repetitive or inappropriate (vulgarity) nature may be declined to be read at the discretion of the meeting Chair.

Please check the District’s [AV Capture](#) for the most up-to-date information about individual meetings.

Questions? Email Board Secretary Amy Oakley at boardsecretary@northshorefire.com

Date: April 2nd, 2024

To: Northshore Board of Fire Commissioners

From: David Maehren – Kenmore Resident

RE: Public Comment April 2nd Fire Commissioners Meeting

I want to thank the board for deciding to slow down the Regional Fire Authority investigative process. I believe you are correct to take your time to ensure the process is thorough, involves the public, businesses, the cities and other stakeholders. I would encourage the board to develop a system that truly engages all stakeholders, provide all the information needed to determine the best path forward for those living and working in the Northshore Fire Department service area.

I know from experience that fire departments have complex operations. Fire District financing is complicated and the RFA formation and governance is complicated. Please ensure those involved in examination of the RFA and other service provision options have the needed information. When I was a fire commissioner, the board attempted to educate select community members regarding the operations and financing of their fire department with a four-hour class. This was clearly not enough time for the participants to gain enough knowledge to be a true participant in decision making.

I believe several public educational sessions are needed with time in between to allow the attendees to think about what they have heard, talk with their neighbors, and gain a reasonable perspective. Time is on your side. This is a big decision that warrants a thorough and thoughtful examination of all the alternatives.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-02

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 16 (the “Northshore Fire Department”) providing for the submission to the voters of Northshore Fire Department at a special election to be held therein on August 6, 2024, in conjunction with the State primary election to be held on the same day, a proposition authorizing a regular property tax levy of \$0.70 per \$1,000 in assessed valuation.

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners (the “Board”) of Northshore Fire Department recognizes that its provision of fire and emergency medical services is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of Northshore Fire Department, which requires expenditure of revenues for maintenance, operations, and equipment;

WHEREAS, Northshore Fire Department has not received (or requested) a levy lid lift for over fifteen (15) years, and the current levy rate for Northshore Fire Department is approximately \$0.52 per \$1,000 assessed value;

WHEREAS, Northshore Fire Department’s levy increases are limited by state law to an increase of 101% per year unless the voters of Northshore Fire Department approve a greater increase;

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that state limitations on funding increases do not allow Northshore Fire Department to keep up with increasing labor and operational costs, and planned capital improvement projects, which will exceed that which can be provided by Northshore Fire Department 's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate as limited by the 101% limitation.

WHEREAS, Northshore Fire Department has determined it will not be able to maintain its present service levels to its citizens without the approval of a levy lid lift;

WHEREAS, the funds generated by this levy will not supplant existing funds used for the delivery of fire and emergency services in Northshore Fire Department.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, as follows:

SECTION 1. That the District shall provide fire and emergency services, including related personnel costs, training for such personnel, and related equipment, supplies, vehicles, and structures needed for the provision of fire and emergency services.

SECTION 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of maintaining and providing the services described in Section 1 and to assure the continuation and improvement of such services, Northshore Fire Department shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010 and levy beginning in 2024 and collect beginning in 2025, pursuant to RCW 52.16.130 and RCW 52.16.140, general tax on taxable property within Northshore Fire Department at a rate of \$0.70 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation. The resulting levy dollar amount would thereafter be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies under RCW 84.55.050.

SECTION 3. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Northshore Fire Department for their ratification or rejection at an election on August 6, 2024, the question of whether or not such levy shall be made.

SECTION 4. Northshore Fire Department’s attorney is authorized to make such minor adjustments to the wording of such proposition as deemed appropriate or as may be recommended by the King County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office or the King County Auditor and its Supervisor of Elections, as long as the intent of the proposition remains clear and as approved by the Board.

SECTION 5. Pursuant to RCW 84.55.050 and 29A.36.071, the King County Prosecuting Attorney is requested to prepare the concise description of the aforesaid proposition for the ballot title in substantially the following form:

**PROPOSITION NO. 1
KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 16
RESTORING REGULAR PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

The Board of Fire Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 16 (the “Northshore Fire Department”), adopted Resolution No. 2024-02 concerning a proposition to authorize Northshore Fire Department’s regular property tax levy. This measure would authorize a regular property tax levy of \$0.70 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation (an estimated increase of \$0.18 per \$1,000 over the current levy) in 2024 (for collection in 2025), and the resulting levy dollar amount would thereafter be used for the purpose of computing the limitations for subsequent levies under RCW 84.55.050. Should this proposal be approved?

YES.....
NO.....

SECTION 6. The Secretary of Northshore Fire Department is directed to (a) certify to the Auditor a copy of this Resolution showing its adoption by the Board by Northshore Fire Department; and (b) perform such other duties as are necessary and required by law in submitting to the voters of Northshore Fire Department at the aforesaid election the proposition of whether such tax levy shall be made.

SECTION 7. The Fire Chief of Northshore Fire Department is authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this legislation.

SECTION 8. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage and signatures hereon.

SECTION 9. If any provision of this resolution is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, then such provision shall be null and void and shall be severable from the remaining provisions of this resolution and shall in no way affect the validity of the other provisions of this resolution.

ADOPTED by the Board of Fire Commissioners of King County Fire Protection District No. 16, at a regularly scheduled open public meeting thereof this 23rd day of April, 2024, of

which notice was given in the manner provided by law, the following Commissioners being present and voting.

KING COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 16

Eric Adman, Commissioner

Lisa Wollum, Commissioner

Josh Pratt, Commissioner

Tyler Byers, Commissioner

Rick Webster, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Amy Oakley, District Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, Secretary of King County Fire Protection District No. 16 (“Northshore Fire Department”), hereby certify as follows:

1. The attached copy of Resolution No. 2024-02 (the “Resolution”) is a full, true, and correct copy of the Resolution duly adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of Northshore Fire Department (the “Board”) held on April 23, 2024, 2024, as the Resolution appears on the minute book of Northshore Fire Department and the Resolution is now in full force and effect.
2. The meeting was held in accordance with law.
3. A quorum of the members of the Board was present throughout the meeting and a majority of those members present voted in the proper manner for the adoption of the Resolution.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 23rd day of April, 2024.

Amy Oakley, District Secretary

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

King County Fire Protection District No. 16 (the “Northshore Fire Department”) seeks voter approval to restore its fire levy to \$0.70 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in 2024 (to be collected in 2025), which is an increase of approximately \$0.18 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This levy is a major funding source for emergency services provided by Northshore Fire Department. State limitations on funding increases do not allow Northshore Fire Department to keep up with increasing labor and operational costs and planned capital improvement projects. Voter approval of Proposition No. 1 will provide funding for t Northshore Fire Department to continue providing fire and emergency medical services at existing levels.

Explanatory Statement Prepared by the District attorney:

Matt T. Paxton (WSBA#46369)
CSD Attorneys at Law, P.S.
1500 Railroad Ave.
Bellingham, WA 98225