

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority
2020 - 2021 Budget Hearing
Held June 14th, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Present: Marty Cox	Chairman
Mike Ancona	Vice Chairman
Carey Lipps	Secretary
Ryan Wellmaker	Treasurer
Gary Chesney	Commissioner

Staff: Chris Collins & Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Josh Jones, Jay Grafton, Don Lewis, and Ruth Ann Strawn

PUBLIC INPUT

There being none, Chairman Cox moved forward with the hearing.

Motion was made by Commissioner Ancona and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to adjourn the 2020 - 2021 Budget Hearing. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Mt. Vernon Airport Authority
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Held July 14th, 2020 at 6:05 PM

Present: Marty Cox	Chairman
Mike Ancona	Vice Chairman
Carey Lipps	Secretary
Ryan Wellmaker	Treasurer
Gary Chesney	Commissioner

Staff: Chris Collins & Sheila Jolly-Scrivner

Guests: Josh Jones, Jay Grafton, Don Lewis, and Ruth Ann Strawn

PUBLIC INPUT

There being no comments from the public, Chairman Cox moved forward on the Agenda.

REPORTS

Minutes

Minutes were presented for the June 9th, Meeting for approval. There being no changes to the minutes, motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Treasurers' Reports

There being no concerns with the Treasurer's Reports, motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Reports as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor of the motion.

Bills for Approval

There being no questions or concerns with the Bills for Approval, motion was made and seconded to approve the bills as presented. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Jolly Scrivner read a congratulatory letter from the Corporate Aviation Association. KMVN's based fuel partnership SRT/Flightline has been voted in (by the membership) as a CAA Preferred FBO. Mr. Collins explained that CAA Preferred FBO's are thoroughly vetted, offer the lowest Jet A costs possible, and provide continual updates of pricing to CAA Members. Mr. Collins believes the status will lead to increased fuel sales, more jet aircraft operations, and additional revenue for southern Illinois.

OLD BUSINESS

There being none, Chairman Cox moved forward with the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

2020/2021 Annual Budget Ordinance 2020-02

Mr. Collins presented the 2020/2021 Annual Budget Ordinance for approval. Motion was made by Commissioner Chesney and seconded by Commissioner Wellmaker to approve the 2020/2021 Annual Budget Ordinance #2020-02. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Annual Tax Levy Ordinance 2020-03

Mr. Collins presented the Annual Tax Levy Ordinance 2020-03 for approval. He mentioned the Ordinance includes a "frozen" levy amount of \$123,128, the same amount levied the previous five years. Motion was made by Commissioner Wellmaker and seconded by Commissioner Lipps to approve the Annual Tax Levy Ordinance #2020-03. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor.

Fire Alarm

Mr. Collins informed the Commissioners he would like to obtain pricing for the installation of a fire alarm system at the airport maintenance building. Since all of the airport's maintenance vehicles (tractors, trucks, snow plows, and mowers) are housed inside the facility, it needs protected. Mr. Collins directed the Commissioners to their booklets and the photo pages titled "The Demise of 2002 Case 580M Backhoe". The airport's backhoe caught fire after only 2:30 seconds from being worked and parked outside. Mr. Collins noted the airport is incredibly lucky to have not lost the Maintenance Building and all of its contents (since the backhoe was left outside)! He noted there are there are many hours during the week when no one is inside the building. As for the airport's backhoe, the insurance company declared it a total loss. The initial

settlement offer came in on Friday afternoon. Mr. Collins expressed frustration as he believes the estimate is far too low. He noted Diamond Equipment's repair estimate is over \$50,000. The insurance company wants to settle for \$27,500 (\$30,000 - \$2500 deductible). Mr. Collins stated he has reached out to agent Todd Piper for help. Discussion ensued with the Commissioners agreeing the settlement offer is far too low. Actual cash value, replacement cost, the agent, bidding of the policies, and a thorough review of the total insurance program were topics of a lengthy discussion. Mr. Collins noted he will continue to work with Mr. Piper to obtain the fairest settlement available. The Commissioners also provided some additional repair sources to contact (ERB Equipment and RPM). Mr. Collins indicated he will contact both sources in the morning to obtain additional repair quotes.

PPRT

Mr. Collins presented an overview and update of the Personal Property Replacement Tax (PPRT) – the airport's biggest revenue source. Personal Property Replacement Taxes (PPRT) are revenues collected by the State of Illinois and paid to local governments to replace money that was lost by local governments when their powers to impose personal property taxes on corporations, partnerships, and other businesses were taken away. These taxes resulted when the new Illinois Constitution directed the legislature to abolish business personal property taxes and replace the revenue lost by local government units and school districts. In 1979, a law was enacted to provide for statewide taxes to replace the monies lost to local governments. Mrs. Scrivner provided a table showing the PPRT receipts for the calendar years 2018, 2019, and 2020. To the surprise of Mr. Collins and Mrs. Scrivner, PPRT receipts for April, May, and June, 2020 are paralleling the same months in 2018 and 2019. Perhaps the overall financial impacts of COVID-19 will not be as negative as expected.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Collins provided details of the recent visit by a Marine Corps C-130J Aerial Refueler from New York. The aircraft and its seven member crew contributed 14 operations, purchased a significant amount of Jet A fuel, and ate dinner at the Bonnie Café.

Mr. Collins informed the Commissioners the Illinois ARMY National Guard's 661st Engineering Detachment Firefighting Team will be on site this weekend utilizing the airport's ARFF Training Ground. The Guard will drive various pieces of ARFF equipment from their Sparta Armory and conduct time/distance drills, exercise turret and handlines, practice real extrication techniques on the airport's C550 fuselage, and conduct various scenario based missions on the airport's C402 ARFF training aircraft.

As discussed in Executive Session, Mr. Collins was directed to construct an employment offer to Mr. Jay Grafton. Mr. Grafton will coordinate the airport's Traditional and Light Sport Training Programs.

There being no Executive Session items, no additional Other Business items, and no further items for discussion on the Agenda, motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call vote, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Executive Session

July 14, 2020

Mr. Collins introduced Mr. Jay Grafton. He stated Jay used to work for the airport approximately ten years ago as a Maintenance Assistant/Flight Instructor. Jay is currently a Senior Flight Instructor at Airgo. Mr. Collins noted he would like to find a way to hire Jay to coordinate the airport's Traditional and LSA Training Programs. Mr. Collins provided some points to consider moving forward: flight instructors are needed to develop aircraft owners, aircraft owners rent hangars and buy fuel, SRT and Duane Sink have made three aircraft available for training, and having an airport based full time instructor will keep a constant pipeline of pilots being trained. If Jay could be secured, KMVN could market and promote a legitimate accelerated LSA Academy. A CFI Academy and Multi-Engine Training Program could also be offered. All would draw pilots from outside the area to the airport where they would spend their money here. Mr. Grafton addressed the Commissioners echoing what Mr. Collins stated, expressed his excitement to join Team MVN, and noted this will be his last pre-retirement position. After official retirement, he will instruct at KMVN on a part time basis. He stated, "I want my grandchildren to grow up here!" Mr. Collins expressed his excitement to build the programs but also expressed his concern over the numbers. The pair stated ideas to make things work financially and the Commissioners, most knowing Mr. Grafton and his reputation, felt comfortable with the ideas presented. Mr. Collins asked for several weeks to structure a plan. With the best flying season in the windscreen and the LSA Expo two months away, the Commissioners felt time was of the essence. They directed Mr. Collins to expedite his plan to hire Mr. Grafton as presented. As far as timing, Mr. Collins was given two weeks to make things happen.

