

NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE
SERVICE DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 20, 2014

Chairman Leroy Nottingham called the North Fort Myers Fire Control and Rescue Service District Board of Commissioners to order at 5:05 p.m.

Present were:

Commissioners: Leroy Nottingham Danny Ballard
 Robert Hoke Michael Gatewood
 Tom Mere

Chief Chris Noble Asst. Chief John Meredith
Asst. Chief David Rice
Office Manager Monique Brooks
Union Representative Jarrett Slaybaugh

Absent:

Fire Marshal Rick Jones

Invocation: Commissioner Mere

Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Hoke

Minutes: Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept Tentative Budget Hearing on September 15, 2014, minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was unanimous. (1)

Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept September 15, 2014, minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was unanimous. (2)

Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept Final Budget Hearing on September 22, 2014, minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board, unanimously. (3)

Treasurer's Report: The September treasurers report was presented. At this time, we are 100% through the budget year, have received 108% of revenues (including cash brought forward) and have spent 96% of expenditures (less reserves). There were no questions. (4)

Chief Noble asked the Board to allow the **Swearing in of the New Firefighters** to take place now. The Board allowed it. Asst. Chief Rice read the Oath of Office to Firefighters Luke McHugh and Cole Arbuckle, and they accepted the Oath.

Chief's Report:

By Chief Noble-

- Weekly reports and monthly run sheet is attached

Commissioner Mere asked what were some examples of good intent calls, because we have ran 1,100 of those? Chief Meredith responded that these include such things as lifting help, smoke investigation, etc.

Chief Meredith also noted that he is going to revise his report format.

Training:

Report is attached. Working on ISO preparation work. There were no questions.

Fire Prevention: Report is attached. Commissioner Mere asked about the change in hours for Prevention? Chief Noble explained that they are still on 4 day workweek, they just alternate their days off, so Prevention is covered 5 days a week.

Public Education: Report is attached. There were no questions.

Union: Union Vote was held, and contract was approved. Commissioner Ballard asked what the vote was. Union Representative said he couldn't remember exactly, but he thinks it was 23-2.

Old Business:

- **Retiree Insurance Policy –**

Chief Noble explained this policy, it's intent when first created in 1989, and why we need to revise it.

Commissioner Mere asked what the cost was now vs. the cost in the future? Chief Noble explained that we currently have 22 retirees on our policy. Chief Noble explained that this policy places a cap on the increases that we are going to face, so a true actuarial can be done, and funding can be established.

Commissioner Nottingham feels uncomfortable voting on this, because he feels this is a negotiable item, because it involves pension. Chief Noble replied that it does not involve pension, and is only a policy set by the Board.

Commissioner Ballard asked why an effective date of October 1, 2015? Chief Noble stated that this is to allow current retirees time to plan on the increases they will be facing.

Commissioner Ballard feels the language needs to be changed to reflect what the actual current rate is.

Commissioner Ballard asked if the two new hires were affected by this policy? Chief Noble said they are able to participate in this policy, because they were hired October 1, 2014 or before.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the Retiree Policy as presented, with the addition of the current rate of \$443.00 added to the verbage. Seconded by Commissioner Gatewood. The motion was put to vote, and all were in favor. The decision was unanimous. (5)

- **Brooks Road Property** – Chief Noble stated that we have obtained two other prices from other Realtors, and they came in at or around the same price range, of approximately \$150,000. Chief Noble felt that we should keep the property for now, and not do anything with it, it does not cost us anything. Commissioner Mere said that if someone came to us with an offer, we would address it then.
- **EMS discussions** – EMS has let us know that they are not going to help with costs related to an addition. They have said they would entertain the idea of a lease agreement. Chief Meredith gave examples of what other Fire Departments in the County are charging.

Commissioner Mere made a motion to ask Lee County EMS \$15,000 per year, for a lease agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, all were in favor and the decision was unanimous.

Commissioner Mere made a motion that if Lee County EMS has not countered with a price on the lease agreement by December 15, 2014, they will vacate the premises at 2900 Trail Dairy Circle by December 30, 2014. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, all were in favor and the decision was unanimous.

- **Special Event Policy** – Chief Noble presented an explanation of the DRAFT Resolution, stating that it covers special events, extra training costs, and charges for alarm activations. He explained that this is only a DRAFT. Commissioner Ballard asked:
 1. What is the average Overtime rate of a Firefighter? Chief Noble responded approximately \$21 per hour.
 2. What about the cost of the apparatus? Chief Noble responded that this was not a separate cost.
 3. Are we going to have a written policy spelling out what constitutes a special event? He feels this needs clarification.

Commissioner Hoke asked if interns were eligible for the special detail? Chief Noble responded No, because they are not on our payroll.

Commissioner Gatewood asked if the rate they were paid would be subject to taxes? Chief Noble responded yes.

Commissioner Ballard feels that we should adopt a policy at the same time, as a Resolution.

New Business:

2013/2014 Budget Line item transfers-

Monique explained the line items. There were no questions.

Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept the 2013/2014 Budget Line item transfers, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gatewood. The motion was put to vote, all were in favor, and the decision was unanimous. (6)

Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept the 2013/2014 Impact Fee Fund Budget Line item transfers, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gatewood. The motion was put to vote, all were in favor, and the decision was unanimous. (7)

2014/2015 Union Contract Ratification –

Union Representative Slaybaugh explained the articles that were negotiated, voted on and approved. A copy of the changes was provided.

Commissioner Hoke made a motion to accept the 2014/2015 Union Contract, as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gatewood. The motion was put to vote, all were in favor, and the decision was unanimous. (8)

Commissioner Items:

Commissioner Mere asked when we were going to discuss who was going to be the next Chief? Discussion followed, and it was decided that this would be discussed at the November meeting.

Public Input: NONE

Community Goodwill & Thank You: NONE

Commissioner Hoke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gatewood. All were in favor and it was approved by the Board, unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. Tentative Budget Hearing Minutes
2. September minutes
3. Final Budget Hearing Minutes
4. September Treasurers Report
5. Retiree Insurance Policy
6. 2013/2014 Budget Line item transfers
7. 2013/2014 Impact Fee Fund Budget Line item transfers
8. 2014/2015 Union Contract changes