

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

September 14, 2015
2015-2016 Tentative Budget Hearing

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: Danny Ballard Mike Gatewood
Leroy Nottingham Robert Hoke
Tom Mere

Chief David Rice Assistant Chief John
Office Manager Monique Brooks
Union Representative Jarrett Slaybaugh

Absent: None

Invocation: Commissioner Mere

Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Ballard

Before Chief Rice presented the budget, the following questions were asked:

1. Commissioner Ballard asked why did union negotiations just begin today? Because there is nothing financial being negotiated.
2. Commissioner Mere asked why the variance column was blank? Oversight. He would like to see any variances noted there.
3. Commissioner Nottingham asked when would the final budget be ready and delivered? Tomorrow

Presentation of 2015-2016 Tentative Budget:

Chief Rice proceeded to go over the line items of the revenues and then the expenditures of the tentative 2015-2016 budget. (1)

Questions/Comments were:

Ballard-

- Why is there \$0.00 in CERT Grant revenues? Because we did not apply for the Grant this year
- Why is the City of Cape Coral revenue \$0.00? Because we no longer have an Interlocal Agreement with them
- Why is Suntrust Interest much lower? We re-structured our account, to reduce the high costs of the account analysis fees, and the interest rates are so low.
- Why is Social Security the same, if personnel wages are lower? Just left it that way, because in years past we have typically gone over . Is it padded? Yes
- Does the money not spent in a single line item go in to reserves or cash brought forward? Yes
- Did you ask our agent to give us a cost of our health insurance premium, excluding the retirees? Yes we did, but you can not submit for a real time quote, on a what if scenario, there fore we do not have an answer with a number. We are required by state statute to offer the retirees the same insurance we have, so it is very hard to exclude them.
- The computer maintenance agreement with CRS needs to be read fully and carefully, and make sure we are not getting ripped off. He is seeing other fire districts not get what they thought they were paying for.
- Do we really need that much money in building maintenance line item, if all of our stations are relatively re-modeled and updated? Yes

Mere-

- Why is our cash brought forward much lower? That is the extra amount of money that we had to use to operate this year.
- What are examples of miscellaneous income? Insurance refund checks, etc. – basically items that are not “designated” to another line item.
- Why is unemployment lower this year? We had an ex-employee receiving this benefit, but they no longer are.
- How do other districts handle their computer maintenance agreements? Commissioner Ballard replied with monthly plan agreements
- He stated that he no longer has any interest in the Insurance Agency or the lawnmower repair shop that he used to own.
- Why aren't we putting \$50,000 in vehicle reserve a year anymore? We have not done that in several years, because we do not have the money.

Nottingham –

- What do we do when a new employee leaves within 12 months of being hired? We charge them for the costs incurred to employ them.

Ballard –

- Which line item reflects the cost of retiree health insurance? The life and health insurance line. Major discussion followed the issue of retiree insurance, the cost associated, any savings possible by dropping them off our policy, need to discontinue paying for their coverage. Commissioner Ballard asked Commissioner Mere for his insurance input/opinion. Commissioner Mere responded that we need to look at all companies that issue policies to fire districts, and also look at other agents. Commissioner Mere noted that he would like to know how many departments pay for retiree insurance? Offer it? How it is handled at other departments? Commissioner Nottingham stopped the discussion, by saying this was micro managing, and we needed to move on.

Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept Resolution 2015-001, which sets the proposed millage rate at 2.5 Mills, for fiscal year 2015-2016. Seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. There were no questions. All were in favor, and the vote was unanimous. (2)

Commissioner Gatewood made a motion to accept Resolution 2015-002, which adopts the 2015-2016 Tentative budget, as presented, in the amount of \$7,958,713. Commissioner Hoke seconded. There were no questions, and the motion was put to vote, the vote was 4-1, and approved. (3)

Chief Rice presented the Tentative 2015/2016 Impact Fee Budget.

Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept the Tentative 2015/2016 Impact Fee budget, as presented. Commissioner Nottingham seconded. There were no questions, the motion was put to vote, all were in favor, and the decision was unanimous. (4)

Commissioner Mere made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hoke seconded. The motion was put to vote, and the decision was unanimous.
Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

1. 2015-2016 Tentative Budget
2. Resolution 2015-001
3. Resolution 2015-002
4. 2015-2016 Impact Fee Budget