



# *Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue*

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FIRE CHIEF  
SALVATORE A. D'ANGELO III

**MINUTES  
AUGUST 16, 2016  
SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING,  
WORKSHOP, AND REGULAR MEETING**

**Held at the Indian Shores Municipal Center  
19305 Gulf Blvd., Indian Shores, FL 33785**

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**SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m.**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Commissioners answering roll call were Vice Chair Laura Martin, Secretary/Treasurer David Gardella, Commissioner Larry Schear, and Commissioner Lou Snelling. Commissioner Joe Bruni was excused. A quorum was present with Vice Chair Laura Martin presiding. Attorney Jeff Albinson, Fire Chief Sal D'Angelo, and Finance Director David Martin were also present.

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**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS:**

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**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**16-11 Second Reading/Public Hearing FY 2016/2017 Budget** – Chief D'Angelo stated that this meeting is a public hearing and members of the public are encouraged to express any concerns they may have. There were no members of the public present. Finance Director Dave Martin explained that there were no changes from the first reading.

**A motion to approve the second reading of the FY 2016/2017 budget.**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER SCHEAR      SECOND: COMMISSIONER SNELLING  
All in favor, motion passed unanimously.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.**

**WORKSHOP MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:04 p.m.**

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:** None.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:** None.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.**

**REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:04 p.m.**

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:**

**MONTHLY BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of Minutes: July 19, 2016, Special, Workshop, and Regular Meeting

*Discussion:*

**A motion to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2016 Special, Workshop, and Regular Meetings.**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA SECOND: COMMISSIONER SCHEAR  
All in favor, motion passed unanimously.**

2. Treasurer's Report: July, 2016

*Discussion:* Secretary/Treasurer Gardella stated that all balance sheet accounts have been reconciled as of July 31, 2016. The District's investments are doing fine. The Unassigned Fund Balance has increased to 22.6 percent of total operating expenditures.

**A motion to approve the July, 2016 Treasurer's Report.**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA SECOND: COMMISSIONER SNELLING  
All in favor, motion passed unanimously.**

3. Correspondence: Secretary/Treasurer David Gardella read the correspondence.

There was one piece of correspondence: Secretary/Treasurer Gardella read a hand-written note that was mailed to the fire department. A mother had thanked personnel for helping with her grandchild's carseat, as well as their recommendation to Lealman Fire Department to get additional help from their carseat-certified personnel.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None.

**REPORTS:**

1. **COMMISSION:** None.

2. **ATTORNEY:** Attorney Jeff Albinson informed the Board that the arbitration hearing regarding the class grievance that was brought before the Board [April 19, 2016; Discussion Item #16-07] in reference to whether or not the Chief has the authority to give a two-step pay raise, or more than one per year, took place on July 27, 2016, as scheduled. He discussed how he felt the arbitration went. He stated that the other side waived their closing statement, but he did not waive his side. The court reporter just sent over the transcripts the other day; each side has 30 days to send in their statements to the arbitrator.

Attorney Albinson reminded the Board that there is a date for the arbitration of Mike Carpenter in September [May 17, 2016; Discussion Item #16-09]. He stated that he has just begun the process of developing a course of action do in terms of evidence and witnesses and that he will be working with Chief D'Angelo to get this accomplished. The arbitration will take place in the Community Room at the Indian Shores Municipal Building.

Attorney Jeff Albinson mentioned that, in the past, he has been asked to create a pamphlet on the Government in the Sunshine Act. He continued that he and the Chief do not think it is worthwhile or cost-effective this year, as there have not been any substantial changes. The commissioners stated that they were fine with not creating a new pamphlet this year. Attorney Albinson discussed that commissioners are not allowed to talk amongst themselves about commission business, and if anyone has a question about what they can and cannot do in terms of Government in the Sunshine, he is happy to answer and explain. He stated that this Board of Commissioners has not ever had an issue with this, but Attorney Albinson wants the record to reflect that it has been discussed, and will be discussed on an annual basis. He also mentioned that if an inadvertent or impromptu meeting occurs that is in violation of the Sunshine Law, it can be brought up as an agenda item at the next public meeting to inform everyone that an inadvertent violation has occurred. He noted that technology can allow these inadvertent mistakes to happen easier than in the past, but this would be the method to use to rectify that situation, if it were to arise.

3. **CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief D'Angelo discussed some of the upcoming events going in the District. The first event is the District's Annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony, which will take place on Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. He mentioned that State Representative Kathleen Peters will be a guest speaker, and an invitation has been extended to both U.S. Congressman Jolly and Indian Shores PD Chief Hughes. The ceremony will take place at Station 27 and light refreshments will be available.

Chief D'Angelo stated that the annual Indian Rocks Beach Public Safety Day will take place at 10:00 a.m. on September 10<sup>th</sup> at Kolb Park.

In reference to events regarding the referendum, Chief D'Angelo said that he is continuing his public education campaign and will be doing two grassroots community meetings in Bay Hills in two upcoming Saturdays. Additionally, members of the department will be participating in "community walks" during September and October, where they will walk from door to door around the communities to educate the residents on the referendum. On October 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be a town hall phone and video conference to provide public education on the referendum. There will also be open house events at all three stations on the last three Saturdays in October. He mentioned that either on the 15<sup>th</sup> or the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the District will also hold its family fun day festival during one of those open houses at the park by City Hall.

Chief D'Angelo stated that the commissioners have a Hardship Exemption Form in their packets from Citrus County. With changes and updates to the non-ad valorem process by GSG, he stated that he felt it was important to implement a form for those residents who have a true financial hardship, and the District can review the forms on a case by case basis to grant exemptions to the non-ad valorem rates. Commissioner Schear stated that he feels it would solve a current hole in the organizational process regarding non-ad valorem assessments. He stated that it provides a form of relief and an alternate path than attending a public hearing, as well as provides an audit trail. Secretary/Treasurer Gardella asked how many residents received notices regarding an increase this year. Finance Director Dave Martin stated that there were 118 properties that had an increase for various reasons and added that they were all noticed and invited to the meeting. He continued that there have been a few residents call regarding discrepancies, and that those issues were able to be easily resolved internally. Secretary/Treasurer Gardella agreed that this form should be tailored to the District's needs and instituted.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

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1. **16-13 Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rates Fixed for FY 2016/2017  
(Resolution 2016-04) First Reading/Public Hearing**

*Discussion:* Attorney Chief Albinson read Resolution 2016-04 in its entirety. Discussion ensued regarding scheduling a special meeting for the second reading of the resolution.

**A motion to adjourn.**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER SCHEAR    SECOND: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA  
All in favor, motion passed unanimously.**

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There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in due form at 7:43 p.m.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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Joseph V. Bruni, Chair

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Date Approved

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Kimberly G. Fugate, Executive Assistant