



FIRE CHIEF
SALVATORE A. D'ANGELO III

Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

304 FIRST STREET
INDIAN ROCKS BEACH, FLORIDA 33785-2508
(727) 595-1117 FAX: (727) 595-5879
www.psfrd.org

**MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2017
WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETING**

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

**WORKSHOP MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 p.m.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS: None.

GENERAL REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

17-28 Stakeholder Group

Discussion: Chief Burton stated that letters soliciting participation in the Stakeholder Group began being sent out on December 4th to over 100 residents, homeowners associations, news outlets, and businesses, either by mail or e-mail. The information was also broadcasted on the District's website, Facebook page, the websites of cities and towns in the District, etc. Response has been limited thus far.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:03 p.m.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary/Treasurer

Chair Joe Bruni distributed the ballots. The four present Commissioners submitted their ballots to Attorney Jeff Albinson. Attorney Albinson tallied the votes and the results were as follows: Joe Bruni for Chair, Lou Snelling for Vice Chair, and Larry Schear for Secretary/Treasurer. All Commissioners remained in their same positions.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Minutes: November 21, 2017 Workshop and Regular Meetings

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2017 Workshop and Regular Meetings.

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

2. Treasurer's Report: November, 2017

Discussion: Secretary/Treasurer Larry Schear stated all balance sheet accounts have been reconciled as of November 30, 2017. He reviewed the District's total assets of the Money Market Account and Fixed Income Investment Program, as well as the state of Fund Balance reserves. He discussed impact fee earnings and the Capital Projects Fund, including the purchase of Engine 27. The current Unassigned Reserve Ratio is 24.7%. See detailed Financial Report for further details.

A motion to approve the September and November, 2017 Treasurer's Reports.

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

3. Correspondence: None.

GENERAL REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Kelly Cisarik - 448 Harbor Drive South, Indian Rocks Beach - [Ms. Cisarik's card was in reference to Item #17-28 Stakeholder Group] Ms. Cisarik stated that since the group will have an advisory function, it will need the transparency of the Sunshine Law, and that she hasn't heard any discussion as to how that will happen. She also stated that she submitted her application to serve on the Stakeholder Group Task Force, but that application is conditional upon the meetings complying with the Sunshine Law.

Ed Hoofnagle - [Did not state address] - Mr. Hoofnagle thanked Chief Burton for coming to various meeting and publicizing the Stakeholder Group, as he feels it is a positive development.

Attorney Albinson explained that the meetings will be in compliance with the Sunshine Law.

REPORTS:

1. **COMMISSION:** Commissioner Schear stated that he received a request from a member of the Indian Shores Property Owner's Association concerning obtaining AEDs, as a particular condo association is interested in getting one for their facility. He explained that the Indian Shores Municipal Building has three, one of which was provided by PSFRD. He continued that they would like to standardize the units and use the same throughout the town.

2. **ATTORNEY:** Attorney Albinson recapped the current Union matter and the revision of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. He stated that he reached out again to attorney Ryan Barack who represents the employees, but has not yet heard back from him. He stated that he will try to follow up with him again.

Attorney Albinson stated that he has two matters that he would like to discuss which involve Mr. Hoofnagle who is present, and his counsel is not, so he will ensure to avoid any ethics issues. Regarding Mr. Hoofnagle's public records lawsuit, Attorney Albinson stated that he was able to speak to Mr. Hoofnagle's attorney and come to an agreement, and the attorney has agreed to hold off until things could be worked out. Attorney Albinson discussed that Mr. Hoofnagle's former attorney, Ken Weiss, had recently made a public records request that was a little broader than Mr. Hoofnagle's request. Attorney Albinson stated that he gathered all of those materials and personally reviewed them at the rate that he would have charged a paralegal to complete it.

Attorney Albinson has spoken with the attorney and said he believes they have an agreement; he will provide all of the documents that he has and, in exchange, the attorney worked with Mr. Hoofnagle to reduce the costs that Mr. Hoofnagle is entitled to recover for his attorney's fees. The attorney's fees total \$5,473.41, and Mr. Hoofnagle agreed to take off \$500 of that. Attorney Albinson explained that Chief Burton would like to get this issue under control. He continued that, if a motion is made to approve him to resolve the case, he will turn over the documents and the case will be dismissed by the attorney. Additionally, he explained, Mr. Hoofnagle, in his other lawsuit regarding the referendum, is entitled to recover "taxable costs," and his attorney filed a motion to recover those costs, which are approximately \$500. Attorney Albinson stated that, with the Board's permission, he would like to get that case resolved, at the reduced hourly rate that he charges the District.

A motion to authorize Jeff Albinson to work through and resolve the public records lawsuit with Mr. Hoofnagle's attorney, for an amount up to \$5,000.

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

A motion to authorize Jeff Albinson to act on behalf of the District to resolve the cost issue on the referendum litigation.

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

3. **CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief Burton stated that Assistant County Administrator John Bennett, who has been very helpful over the last few years in working with public safety entities, has left public employment and went into private consulting work. He continued that the public safety community will miss his contributions in trying to take a more regional, cooperative approach between entities and the County. Mr. Bennett has been replaced by Lourdes Benedict.

Chief Burton stated that he met briefly recently with Jim Fogarty, Public Safety Director for the County, regarding Penny for Pinellas discussions. He explained that PSFRD's settlement agreement with the County states that if the Penny was approved, a meeting must take place within 60 days. He stated that he will meet again in early January with Jim Fogarty. Chief Burton explained that if the District is trying to get Penny dollars ahead of 2020, they must ensure that they are taking a regional approach to providing services, and the Chief stated that he is working on some elements with regard to that, and he will have an update after those meetings.

The Chief stated that he will have a 2017 recap for the CERT activity and the public education staff at the next meeting.

Chief Burton stated that the FEMA reimbursement paperwork for Hurricane Irma has been completed and submitted. He continued that FEMA seemed quite satisfied with the submission, but he is unsure how long it will be before an answer is received.

ACTION ITEMS:

17-26 Service-Connected Total & Permanent Disability Tax Exemption and Non-Ad Valorem Assessments

Fire Chief

Discussion: Chief Burton stated that the tax exemption issue is not quite as clear as he had previously thought. He explained that many of the properties which show a zero taxable value are, in fact, paying non-ad valorem assessments; of the approximately 78 that qualify for zero taxes, approximately 63 pay other ad valorem assessments. He would like to do further research rather than make a hasty decision.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in due form at 7:50 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:


Joseph V. Bruni, Chair

11/16/18
Date Approved


Kimberly G. Fugate, Executive Assistant