



FIRE CHIEF
T. MICHAEL BURTON

Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

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MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 2020
WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETINGS

Held Virtually Via Zoom

WORKSHOP MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Commissioners answering roll call were Chair Joseph Bruni, Commissioner David Gardella, and Commissioner David Ardman. A quorum was present with Chair Joe Bruni presiding. Attorney Jeff Albinson, Chief Mike Burton, and Finance Director David Martin were also present. Vice Chair Louis Snelling and Secretary/Treasurer Lawrence Schear were absent.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS: None.

GENERAL REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

20-17 Adoption of the Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy
(Resolution 2020-02)

(Discussed during action items.)

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Minutes: July 21, 2020 Workshop and Regular Meetings

Discussion: None.

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2020 Workshop and Regular Meetings.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER ARDMAN SECOND: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA

All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report: July, 2020

Discussion: Postponed due to the absence of the Secretary/Treasurer.

3. Correspondence: None.

GENERAL REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

REPORTS:

1. **COMMISSION:** Commissioner Ardman stated that the City of Indian Rocks Beach recently held a workshop and discussed on-street parking, during which time he brought up a concern about fire apparatus, as there are currently very few restrictions in the residential areas on the east side of Gulf Boulevard. The City may be considering a ban on on-street parking, at least until 5:00 p.m. each day.

Commissioner Ardman stated that he reached out to Pinellas County for a contact in the unincorporated Oakhurst area and has provided that information to Chief Burton.

At the last meeting, the Commission approved Commissioner Ardman to work with the Chief regarding an RFP for a rate assessment. Commissioner Ardman confirmed that meeting took place, and expects there will be one or two more in the future. He stated that he has questions for Mr. Albinson which he will address at a later time.

2. **ATTORNEY:** Mr. Albinson stated that he did work with the Chief and discussed Mr. Ardman's question. He also stated that he worked with Chief Burton and Ms. Fugate regarding the resolution that has been added to the agenda, which will be discussed at the appropriate time.

3. **CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief Burton stated that staffing levels have stabilized after many weeks and all staff who were out due to COVID-19 have returned to work. The hard costs are in the range of \$130,000 - \$140,000 due mostly to overtime and backfill, which should be resolved for the time being.

Chief Burton stated that the fire station location study is going through grammatical edits and once it is in final form it will be presented to the Commission for adoption, and will then hopefully become part of a master plan for the District.

The Chief stated that the fire boat training has been completed, the boat lift at the Indian Rocks Beach dock has been completed and is operational, and the graphics have been placed on the boat.

The next negotiation session with the Union will take place on August 21, 2020 at Belleair Beach. Union negotiations are public meetings.

The District had a new phone system installed and is waiting for a cutover date from the outside phone company to bring in existing outside lines. The system was completed at the end of last week; however, part of the new phone system was struck by lightning last night. It is now back to being operational.

Chief Burton discussed that the internal committee working on a replacement for Squad 26 has finished their work and the findings will be brought forward to the Commission soon.

Chief Burton announced that Life Safety Inspector Marshall Eiss will be retiring in September. Mr. Eiss has served the District well and has been a great ambassador for the District in the community. His position has been posted. Commissioner Gardella wished Mr. Eiss well in his retirement.

Commissioner Ardman inquired as to how many commendations have been deferred since meeting virtually; Ms. Fugate stated probably at least 10. Chief Burton also stated that the Oath of Office will be reinstated once the Commission is able to begin meeting in person again.

ACTION ITEMS:

**20-15 Fire Chief Evaluation Process
Approval and Distribution**

Discussion: Chief Burton stated that he had asked the Commission at the last meeting to make known any issues with the new evaluation form. If there are no issues, he requested the Commissioners to complete the evaluation form so that it can be placed on the agenda for the September meeting. Ms. Fugate confirmed that the deadline to return the completed evaluations to her will be September 1, 2020.

**20-16 Fixing Rates of Non-Ad Valorem Assessments for FY20/21
(Resolution 2020-01)**

Discussion: Attorney Jeff Albinson read Resolution 2020-01 in its entirety.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2020-01.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA SECOND: COMMISSIONER ARDMAN

All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

**20-17 Adoption of the Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy
(Resolution 2020-02)**

Discussion: Chief Burton stated that, over two years ago, District Chief Sidlauskas began working with Indian Rocks Christian School in a private/public partnership to help them install an emergency generator at the school which doubles as the District's Emergency Operations Center. It was brought to the District's attention yesterday that there was a FEMA expectation that the District has adopted the Pinellas County Local Mitigation Strategy, which is a common practice for municipalities. The plan is revised on a five-year cycle and is currently on its fourth revision. The purpose of the District adopting this resolution is to acknowledge that it embraces the work that has been done by the professionals who developed this plan regarding disaster management for both manmade and natural disasters. Attorney Jeff Albinson read Resolution 2020-02 in its entirety.

A motion to adopt Resolution 2020-02.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER ARDMAN SECOND: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA

All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in due form.

APPROVED:



Joseph V. Bruni, Chair

ATTEST:



Kimberly G. Fugate, Executive Assistant

9/15/2020

Date Approved