



Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

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FIRE CHIEF
T. MICHAEL BURTON

MINUTES JUNE 18, 2019 WORKSHOP AND REGULAR MEETINGS

Held at Indian Shores Municipal Building
19305 Gulf Blvd., 4th Floor, Indian Shores, FL 33785

WORKSHOP MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:02 p.m. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS: None.

EMPLOYEE COMMENDATION – Fire Chief Mike Burton commended Firefighter EMT Carson Stitt for exemplary behavior in assisting citizens.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

19-11 Status of Marine Contract with Pinellas County

Discussion: Chief Burton explained that some edits were made to the contract, and after a meeting with Craig Hare, he said he hopes to have it back this week. Assistant Chief Mortellite has assembled a committee to begin researching marine assets. He said that the County has agreed to an additional 365-day extension for delivery of items, as long as they are under contract. Attorney Albinson also added language to help protect the District.

19-12 Status of Truck 28 Repair

Discussion: Chief Burton stated that he just learned that the Truck 28 repairs should be completed early next week. He explained that there are a few outstanding items to work through with Ten-8 and Pierce, including a goodwill extension of the warranty and an issue with the water tank. One member from PSFRD – likely the mechanic, Tom Bruno – will fly to Wisconsin for an inspection trip before bringing the truck

back. Also, at the District's expense, three more days of training will need to be held for employees.

19-13 Expected New Revenue from Referendum and Preliminary Commitments

Discussion: Finance Director David Martin stated that he has completed a workout to the year 2029 to attempt to capture funds for apparatus replacement, station replacement, etc. He explained that the revenue will generate \$3.9 million. During the first three years, \$935,000 will be reserve assignment catchups; \$68,000 will be used for new assignments going into the future. Compensation and benefits over the three years will be approximately \$1.6 million, and general operating expenses will be \$300,000. This will result in an increase to our unassigned funds balance \$963,000 at the end of three years. However, after that, in year four, approximately \$700,000 of the \$1.3 million will be compensation and benefits, which will increase and accumulate as time goes on. Mr. Martin stated that the District will manage expenses as prudently as possible, but will need to keep the future in mind so that the District is not in the same situation as last year. Commissioner Schear asked if this means the District will need to pursue a new funding source, potentially after year three. Mr. Martin confirmed that the District will need to pursue a new funding source. Chief Burton explained that the new revenue is flat, but expenses will continue to increase.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:11 p.m.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

19-09 Review of Chief Burton's Contract

Discussion: Chair Bruni stated that he would like to add Fire Chief Burton's performance review, as it is overdue, but wishes to hold off on any increase in pay or benefits until union negotiations have been completed.

19-18 Truck 28 Reimbursement

Note: This item was raised and discussed after 19-14.

Discussion: Chief Burton stated that, since the last meeting, he has learned that the \$1.2 million reimbursement for Truck 28 in the Pinellas County budget is competing with several other Penny projects. In speaking with the Emergency Services Director, he thought it might be appropriate for the PSFRD Commission to reach out to the County Commission or Administrator to explain how important the funding is for this project. Chief Burton explained he is requesting authorization for the Chair and for himself to jointly communicate with the County Commission and Administrator, urging their funding in their budget for the Truck 28 funds from the settlement agreement.

A motion to authorize Fire Chief and the Chair to pursue communication with the County Commission and Administrator regarding Truck 28 funding.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA SECOND: COMMISSIONER SCHEAR

All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Minutes: May 21, 2019 Workshop and Regular Meetings

Discussion: No discussion.

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2019 Workshop and Regular Meetings.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER SNELLING SECOND: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA

All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report: May, 2019

Discussion: Secretary/Treasurer Schear stated all balance sheet accounts have been reconciled as of May 30, 2019. He reported the following: Consolidated government fund assets and liabilities are \$3.38 million; the investment program in accordance with District policy is \$3.2 million; current liabilities are within normal end-of-month limits at \$210,600; the capital projects fund revenues total \$40.1 thousand, with an additional \$16,000 still pending payment; general fund, FEMA grant for Hurricane Irma, unbudgeted EMS revenues, greatly improving investment interest rates, and a positive workers' compensation audit all contributed to a reduction in the \$249.2 thousand budget deficit. However, due to overtime caused by absences from FMLA, workers' compensation leave, and military leave, the revised projection has resulted in a deficit of \$60,300. The reserve ratio remains slightly ahead of GASB recommendations at 24.0%. See detailed Financial Report for further details.

A motion to approve the May, 2019 Treasurer's Reports.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA SECOND: COMMISSIONER SNELLING

All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

3. Correspondence: None.

GENERAL REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

REPORTS:

1. **COMMISSION:** Commissioner Schear discussed that FDOT has put forth a plan for a drainage system to try to accumulate water after rainstorms on Gulf Boulevard. He added that some people in Indian Shores are requesting raised concrete sidewalks.

2. **ATTORNEY:** Attorney Jeff Albinson stated that he has been working with Chief Burton on the marine unit contract. He stated that he is now also working on the water tank issue for Truck 28. He stated that there have been a few union and grievance issues that should be resolved soon. He mentioned also that the shade session is scheduled for immediately following the meeting.

3. **CHIEF'S REPORT:** Chief Burton stated that he has begun attending the Indian Shores Town Council meetings. He also served as a guest speaker for the Flag Day ceremony at Indian Rocks Beach. He discussed that a significant amount of time has been spent each week on bargaining preparation. Chief Burton mentioned that there was a significant fire over the weekend in Largo, and all of PSFRD's resources were on that scene for several hours. Other assets from Pinellas County were moved to the District for coverage and the 911 system's reallocation technology worked very well. Chief Burton also discussed that there has been a significant amount of overtime lately which has presented fiscal challenges as well as challenges for the employees. Regarding the vacant Firefighter/EMT position, 11 candidates were interviewed and the plan is to have someone on board within four weeks.

ACTION ITEMS:

19-14 Davidson, Jamieson & Cristini, P.I. Contract Renewal

Discussion: Finance Director Martin stated that it is his recommendation to move forward with the standard, three-year contract renewal with Davidson, Jamieson & Cristini.

A motion to adopt the May 10, 2019 contract proposal with Davidson, Jamieson & Cristini, P.I., and to authorize the Chair to sign off on behalf of the District.

MOTION: COMMISSIONER SCHEAR SECOND: COMMISSIONER GARDELLA

All in favor, motion passed unanimously.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Kelly Cisarik – 448 Harbor Drive South, Indian Rocks Beach – Regarding Penny for Pinellas funds for Truck 28, Ms. Cisarik stated that she had just looked at the County Penny budget and saw several fire station projects, but did not see anything related to the District's assets and projects. She asked if the Truck 28 reimbursement would be coming out of Penny 3 or Penny 4. Chief Burton explained the goal was to try to get it in Penny 3, and no formal requests have been made yet to the County for \$3 million for Station 28, as a site has not yet been determined. He said the hope is to have Truck 28 funded out of their existing budget, especially as it is part of the settlement agreement.

19-09 Review of Chief Burton's Contract

Note: This item was referred to during the meeting as 19-16.

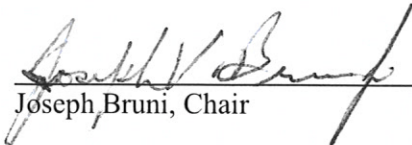
Discussion: Chair Bruni stated that he wishes to wait until union negotiations have completed.

19-15 Shade Session

At this time, the public was asked to leave and the shade session was held. Audio and notes will remain separate.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in due form at 7:26 p.m.

APPROVED:

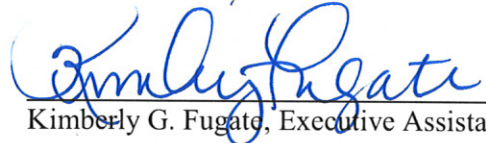


Joseph Bruni, Chair

7/16/19

Date Approved

ATTEST:



Kimberly G. Fugate, Executive Assistant