



FIRE CHIEF
SALVATORE A. D'ANGELO III

Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

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MINUTES DECEMBER 20, 2016 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, and Commissioner Laura Martin. Vice Chair Lou Snelling and Commissioner David Gardella were excused. A quorum was present with Chair Joe Bruni presiding. Attorney Jeff Albinson, Fire Chief Sal D'Angelo, and Finance Director David Martin were also present.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS:

OATH OF OFFICE - Commissioner Laura Martin and Commissioner Larry Schear: Attorney Jeff Albinson performed the swearing in of newly re-elected Commissioners Laura Martin and Larry Schear. (Commissioner Lou Snelling was also re-elected, but was absent.) Attorney Albinson explained that a formal oath is done by mail and the swearing in at the meeting is ceremonial only.

SERVICE PIN AWARD - Firefighter/Paramedic Tim Burnham: Fire Chief Sal D'Angelo presented Firefighter/Paramedic Tim Burnham with a service pin for five years of dedicated service to the District.

Fire Chief D'Angelo explained that a service pin was supposed to be presented to Firefighter/Paramedic Jeff Pyles, but he was unable to attend. He added that an award was also to be presented to Firefighter Pyles for a near-miss incident that he was involved in that occurred January 1, 2015.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

16-16 Property for Station 26

Discussion: Chief Sal D'Angelo discussed finding a permanent property for Station 26. Information was distributed to the Commissioners regarding a parcel of land just north of the Duke Energy property. He discussed that conversations with Duke Energy are still in the works; however, this has been ongoing since last year but the District still does not have an answer from them. Chief D'Angelo added that impact fees are also in place to help offset the cost. Discussion ensued about the property. The Chief stated that he will have additional information at the January meeting.

Public comment from Kelly Cisarik - 448 Harbor Drive South, Indian Rocks Beach - Mrs. Cisarik stated that Pinellas County has agreed to pay \$300,000 for a design study, with the understanding that they will build a new EMS substation for North Redington Beach at the location of their Public Works Building. She inquired as to how the new location for Station 26 will dovetail with that location, and how it would fit with the 7 ½ minute service standard. She also asked if PSFRD has any assurances from the County that they will continue to fund one paramedic seat at this location. Chief D'Angelo stated that there are no assurances from the County, but that PSFRD exceeds the 7 ½ response standard and will continue to surpass it by following NFPA 1710. Mrs. Cisarik stated that she was concerned if the County would continue to fund Station 26 or not due to its close proximity to the North Redington Beach station.

Chief D'Angelo stated that the District contributes a substantial amount of money to the EMS revenue and does not see why it would lose any. He added that PSFRD has been transparent with its plans for Station 26 for quite some time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:16 p.m.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Minutes: November 15, 2016, Workshop and Regular Meetings

Discussion: None.

A motion to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2016 Workshop and Regular Meetings.

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

2. Treasurer's Report: November, 2016

Discussion: Secretary/Treasurer Schear stated that all balance sheet accounts have been reconciled as of November 30, 2016. Current total assets are about \$3.4 million. A few IRAs have rolled over as they have become mature in recent months, one with 100 points and another with 90 points. Liabilities are normal according to the budget. The Unassigned Fund Balance increased to 27.3 percent of total operating expenditures.

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

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

3. Correspondence:

Secretary/Treasurer Larry Schear read a letter from a woman in appreciation of Firefighters Kurt Crevier and Patrick Schwab for their acts of kindness, professionalism, and assistance with her sister who has lived locally in Largo.

Secretary/Treasurer Schear next read a letter from Deborah Clark, Supervisor of Elections, sent to each of the newly re-elected commissioners, congratulating them on their re-election.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

John Pfanstiehl – 448 Harbor Drive South, Indian Rocks Beach. Mr. Pfanstiehl advised the Commissioners not to commit to spending any money derived from ad valorem taxes. He discussed that a lawsuit is pending for deception in the referendum wording, and that they are looking into ethics violations and voter fraud by government officials in their participation in the ballot language and mailings. He added that the mailings discuss that firefighters had given up wage increases, but it did not discuss that PSFRD's cost per seat is over 33% higher than for the rest of the firefighters in Pinellas County, or that the firefighters received an increase last year. Mr. Pfanstiehl said that the mailings including Clearwater and Seminole rates are irrelevant because he does not live in an unincorporated area. He believes the mailings should have listed the Redingtons' rates. He added that the non-ad valorem rate could have been raised at any time by the voters.

Kelly Cisarik – 448 Harbor Drive South, Indian Rocks Beach. Mrs. Cisarik said, at the October 18th commission meeting, she spoke about her concern with PSFRD's lack of compliance with the Sunshine Law, but the recording cut out momentarily during her comments, which she believes is an indication of this lack of compliance. She discussed that, prior to November, PSFRD's agendas were not available on the website 7 days prior to the meetings. Mrs. Cisarik discussed that the 2015/2016 adopted budget went missing from the website sometime after April. She stated that she made two public requests that same morning and, after that, the budget was put back on the website. She inquired as to whether the 2015/2016 budget had any amendments. She stated that PSFRD only budgeted \$20,000 for legal fees, which it exceeded, and the Finance Director or the Fire Chief should have notified the Commissioners that an amendment was needed to raise the legal fee budget. Mrs. Cisarik read excerpts from Florida Statute 189.016. Finance Director Dave Martin apologized for the oversight, as he did not replace the tentative budget with the final budget on the website, but noted that there were no changes or amendments from the tentative to the final budget.

REPORTS:

1. COMMISSION: None.

2. ATTORNEY: Attorney Jeff Albinson stated that the District prevailed in the "class" arbitration and the matter has been concluded.

Attorney Albinson stated that the arbitration involving the termination of the employment of Michael Carpenter is presently open. He said that there have been some delays and the District is awaiting an answer from the arbitrator.

Attorney Albinson stated that, in regard to Mr. Hoofnagle's lawsuit challenging the referendum question, Mr. Hoofnagle has been unable to retain a new attorney, and is moving forward with litigation on a pro se basis. Attorney Albinson discussed that Mr. Hoofnagle has asked for a discovery, and while they do not feel that a discovery is appropriate, to avoid incurring any additional fees, the District is responding to the request for discovery. He continued that there was a motion for a summary judgment file, and Mr. Hoofnagle asked for approximately a 2 ½ month extension of time to respond, and the judge gave him about a 1 - 1 ½ month extension. Attorney Albinson stated that the court has scheduled a case management conference, at which point the court can take up any pending motions. He stated that he believes the court will take up the summary judgment motion at that hearing. Mr. Hoofnagle indicated he did not have an objection to that process.

Attorney Albinson stated that a lawsuit is currently pending with the County in regard to the EMS funding. He stated that there is no progress on that to report at this time.

3. CHIEF'S REPORT: Chief D'Angelo stated that next month we will have an update on the Fire Prevention Division.

Chief D'Angelo stated that operations are running smoothly. Shift meetings are currently being held with all personnel to keep everyone involved and to answer any questions shift personnel may have.

The Chief said that that District personnel had a nice Christmas gathering, as well as a kids' Christmas party. Several personnel and their families were able to attend.

Chief D'Angelo stated that, at the next meeting, he will provide an update regarding new construction and other a few other items taking place within the borders of the fire district.

Secretary/Treasurer Schear mentioned that CERT has been helping out with a toy drive and non-perishable goods collection, with the help of Marshall Eiss and Bob Hill.

ACTION ITEMS:

**16-17 Adoption of NFPA 1710 as a Guideline for Minimum Response Requirements
(Resolution 17-01) First Reading**

Discussion: Attorney Albinson read Resolution 17-01 in its entirety. Secretary/Treasurer Schear inquired as to if the minimum staffing levels identified in NFPA 1710 exceed our current staffing levels. Chief D'Angelo confirmed that they do, and that NFPA identifies minimum standards, and some departments include their own additions to NFPA standards. He continued that adopting NFPA 1710 simply provides the District with a framework for the future on how to appropriately staff its apparatus with respect to response times for both fire and EMS incidents.

Secretary/Treasurer Schear asked about the funding requirements if the resolution is adopted. Chief D'Angelo stated that this resolution does not bind the Commissioners to anything. He explained that it serves as a template for the District to use moving forward with regard to proper staffing levels for high-rise buildings, multi-story buildings, residential buildings, etc.

A motion to approve the FIRST READING of Resolution 17-01, Adoption of NFPA 1710 as a Guideline for Minimum Response Requirements.

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

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in due form at 8:46 p.m.

APPROVED:


Joseph V. Bruni, Chair

11/17/17
Date Approved

ATTEST:


Kimberly G. Fugate, Executive Assistant