

SEPTEMBER 18, 2013

PUBLIC HEARING FOR 2013 FIRE TAX APPEALS
&
2013 MILLAGE RATE HEARING & 2013/2014 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET HEARING
&
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
SOUTHERN MANATEE FIRE & RESCUE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Location: Administrative Offices, Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District, 2451 Trailmate Drive, Sarasota, Florida, 34243

Present: Charles A. Durant, Chairman; Melanie Marken, Secretary; Anthony Evans, Treasurer; and Commissioner James Cena. Daniel Center, Vice Chairman was absent. Also in attendance were Chief Brian Gorski, Deputy Chief Tim Berry, Fire Marshal Leslie Adent, and Administrative Assistant Debbie Tuckerman. The attached guest list contains signatures of members of the public.

Call to Order

Chairman Durant called the public hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

Moment of Silence/Pledge

A moment of silence was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Hearing/Assessment Appeals

- **Verification of Public Notices**
Chairman Durant called for verification of the Public Notice. Administrative Assistant Tuckerman stated that the public hearing was advertised as required.
- **Presentation**
Chief Gorski gave a brief overview of Resolution 2013-06 for our Tax Assessment Roll. He recommended the Board approve the resolution.
- **Open Public Hearing for Appeals/Comments**
Chairman Durant opened the Public Hearing at 6:07 p.m. for the assessment appeals. There was no public comment.
- **Close the Public Hearing for Appeals/Comments**
Commissioner Marken moved to close the public hearing for assessment appeals at 6:07 p.m. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.

- **Consideration of Resolution 2013-06**
Chairman Durant stated the Board has Resolution 2013-06 Non-Ad Valorem Assessments in front of them for consideration. *Commissioner Cena made a motion to approve Resolution 2013-06. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion and the motioned unanimously carried.*
- **Adjournment of Public Hearing**
Chairman Durant adjourned the Public Hearing for Assessment Appeals at 6:08 p.m.

Public Hearing/Adoption of Resolution 2013-07 on the 2014 Millage Rate

- **Verification of Public Notice**
Chairman Durant called for verification of the Public Notice. Administrative Assistant Tuckerman stated that the meeting was advertised as required.
- **Presentation of Millage Rate**
Chief Gorski stated that the Board had in front of them Resolution 2013-07 and that the 2013/2014 operating millage rate is 1.0193 mills which is equal to the rolled-back rate.
- **Open Public Hearing for Comment**
Chairman Durant opened the Public Hearing for the millage rate at 6:10 p.m. There was no public comment.
- **Close the Public Hearing**
Commissioner Evans made a motion to close the Public Hearing at 6:10 pm on the millage rate. Commissioner Marken seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.
- **Consideration of Resolution 2013-07**
Chairman Durant stated the Board has Resolution 2013-07 on the 2014 Millage Rate for consideration. *Commissioner Marken motioned to approve Resolution 2013-07 on the millage rate. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*
- **Adjournment of Public Hearing**
The Public Hearing on the millage rate was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

Public Hearing/Adoption of Resolution 2013-08 on the 2013/2014 FYE Budget

- **Verification of Public Notice**
Chairman Durant called for verification of the Public Notice. Administrative Assistant Tuckerman stated that the hearing was advertised as required.
- **Presentation of Proposed Budget/Procedures**
Chief Gorski stated the Board has Resolution 2013-08 to adopt our 2013/2014 Budget. He gave a brief overview of the budgeting process and how we got where we are.

- **Open Public Hearing for Comment**
Chairman Durant opened the Public Hearing for comments at 6:15 p.m. There was no public comment.
- **Close the Public Hearing**
Commissioner Cena made a motion to close the Public Hearing on the 2013/2014 Budget. Commissioner Marken seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.
- **Consideration of Resolution 2012-08**
Commissioner Evans motioned to approve Resolution 2013-08 on the 2013/2014 Budget. Commissioner Marken seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.
- **Adjournment of Public Hearing**
Chairman Durant adjourned the Public Hearing on the budget at 6:16 p.m.

Continuation of Regular Board Meeting

Consent Agenda

The consent agenda was included in the Board packet. *Commissioner Evans motioned to accept the consent agenda items as presented. Commissioner Marken seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Durant called for Public Comment and there was none.

OLD BUSINESS

* None

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Ratification of Union Contract**
Chief Gorski noted that the process was completed and a 100% approval of the contract was given by the members. This is a three year contract. *Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the Agreement between the Suncoast Professional Firefighters and Paramedics, IAFF Local 2546 and Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District. Commissioner Cena seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*
2. **Surplus Inventory**
Chief Gorski reported that the attached memo outlines items that staff is requesting to be removed from fixed assets. *Commissioner Cena motioned to approve the surplus inventory as presented. Commissioner Evans seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

3. 2013/2014 Schedule of Regular Meetings

Chief Gorski reported that the Schedule of Regular Meetings was included in their packet. He informed the Board that he will hold a Budget Workshop early next year. Chairman Durant inquired if we would be cancelling the December meeting. Chief Gorski reported that if there was no pressing business that could be arranged. He will advise the Commissioners closer to the meeting date. *Commissioner Evans motioned to approve the Schedule of Regular Meetings as presented. Commissioner Cena seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

4. Chief Gorski's Contract

Chairman Durant had previously distributed a copy of the new contract for Chief Gorski. Chief Gorski requested one slight change to the contract. He would like his salary increases to line up with January 1. This would be the same as employees. *Commissioner Evans motioned to approve Chief Gorski's contract with revisions. Commissioner Cena seconded the motion and the motion unanimously carried.*

*** Fire Prevention Month**

Fire Marshal Adent reported that the month of October is filling up fast. She has scheduled more than 25 events at day cares and schools in our district. There are ten more schools/day cares to schedule. The theme this year is "Prevent Kitchen Fires".

COMMITTEE REPORTS

5. Pension Committee

Chief Gorski reported that the date to watch will be September 30. The status of the market at that time could show as a reduction or increase to the District's contribution percent.

*** Union**

Adam Chevalier noted, as previously reported, that the contract was ratified. It was a historical night.

VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION

* Minutes not available

CHIEF'S REPORT

6. Chief's Reports

Chief Gorski gave a brief overview of his memo to the Board. He also distributed the Customer Satisfaction Surveys received to date. There will also be a Government in the Sunshine/Public Records class in Sarasota on October 11 at Michaels on East. The Commissioners are to notify Debbie if they wish to attend. As we have previously reported, there is work in progress on a standardized Chart of Accounts. We are currently looking at this process. A reminder, the Volunteer Association Annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for October 25 at University Park Country Club.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

COMMISSIONER'S/ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS

Fire Marshal Adent reported that we have received another batch of smoke alarms. We just installed 32 in the neighborhood of a recent structure fire.

Commissioner Cena inquired about planning for the future in our budgets. He wondered if the Chief was looking at increased staffing and/or additional fire stations. Chief Gorski said that we will be looking at all that along with possibly hiring another inspector. Deputy Fire Marshal Bounds is working more on the Administrative side than Prevention right now.


Commissioner Evans noted that Chief Gorski and the Union did a good job on the contract. He is looking forward to next year.

Chairman Durant echoed the good job on the contract.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles A. Durant, Chairman

Attest:



Melanie A. Marken, Secretary