NORTH FORT MYERS FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 22, 2020

Chairman Michael Gatewood called the North Fort Myers Fire Control and Rescue Service District Board of Commissioners to order at 5:05 p.m.

Roll Call Present:

Commissioners: Mike Gatewood Danny Ballard Robert Hoke Thomas Mere (via phone) Leroy Nottingham

Chief David Rice Assistant Chief John Manson Office Manager Monique Brooks Fire Marshal Rick Jones Public Education Officer Kulwicki

Absent: Union Representative Slaybaugh

Invocation: Chief Rice

Pledge: Commissioner Ballard

Public Input: Mrs. Ballard glad to see everyone again

Minutes:

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the May 18, 2020 minutes, as written. Seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (1)

Treasurer's Report: The May treasurers report was presented. At this time, we are 67% through the budget year, received 98% of revenues (including cash brought forward) and spent 67% of expenditures (less reserves). (2) There were no questions or comments.

Chief's Report:

By Chief Rice-

- Still monitoring COVID 19
- The front apron repair at Station 3 is complete
- Received our Preliminary Taxable Property Value numbers for 2020/2021, and it approximately a 4% increase in property values
- Gear Extractor at Station 2 is installed and operational
- We will be holding an Engineers Promotional Exam in September
- Lieutenant Cabral implemented a Drone program for the District, and we feel it is very beneficial not only to our District, but the Fire Service and thanked him for the program. Commissioner Ballard noted there are mapping programs for Drones available, and to let Lieutenant Cabral know

By Assistant Chief Manson –

- Monthly run report attached
- Our three Rescue trucks need to be replaced as soon as possible and we would like to go ahead and order them because they take about 6-8 months to arrive, and our current ones are in very bad condition. Commissioner Ballard asked:
 - (1) what we were looking at as replacements? Dodge 5500's.
 - (2) what was the GVW? 19,500 pounds
 - (3) what was the tank size? 300 gallons of water

He noted that we need to make sure the GVW is enough for the amount of braking we do, to not place excessive wear on the motor and to address tire issues.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to allow administration the latitude to begin looking at Rescue trucks and bring back options next month. Seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. Discussion followed. Chief Manson replied that we have done our research and are ready to move forward. Commissioner Ballard said if we brought back a light truck he will vote No. He would like us to look at the new Chevy 6000 truck. Commissioner Hoke asked about downsizing the truck and amount of water carried. Chief Manson replied that we are hoping to use the equipment off the old Rescue trucks and put on the new ones. Commissioner Gatewood asked what is the current weight of the trucks? Not sure we will have to weigh them. Chief Manson said he feels we need to rotate the rescue trucks more frequently because of the amount of use they receive. Commissioner Ballard asked how has the current Chevrolet we have as a reserve worked so far? It is a very light truck and basic.

The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

• Engine 1 is due to be replaced next year, and we will be coming to the Board with that also. Commissioner Hoke how much damage was done to Service 1? A few thousand dollars and we will be reimbursed by EMS for that.

Fire Prevention: Report attached. There were no questions or comments.

Public Education: Report attached. Christi has received a new Fire Extinguisher training simulator and provided a demonstration of it. There were no questions or comments.

Union: Not here

Old Business:

Fire Chief Position resumes. Commissioner Gatewood announced that the Board had received two resumes.

Commissioner Gatewood made a motion for the Board to conduct their interviews with the two candidates before the next meeting and at the next meeting the Board would make a decision. Seconded by Commissioner Ballard. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

New Business:

Purchase of New Rescue Trucks – discussed under Chiefs Report.

Meeting recessed for a break at 5:53 p.m.

Meeting re-adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

2019/2020 Budget Amendment – Monique presented the Budget Amendment. Commissioner Ballard asked about the salary line item, and why we were under budget so much? Monique explained that due to the unplanned pay increases after the beginning of the budget year as well as a year of unusual circumstances which has caused an increase in shift differential (acting) pay, the salary line item was not going to be enough at the current amount. Commissioner Ballard asked where is the shift differential pay shown on the budget? It is not shown on the general budget, because that amount falls directly under salaries, but that it is broken out in their monthly report. Commissioner Mere suggested that we call Mr. Tuscan and ask how other Fire District's show that amount on their budgets. Commissioner Ballard quoted a direct question that he asked last budget year about salaries and was it enough, since we had not ratified the union contract prior to approval of the budget, and was assured that the amounts in the salary line item were enough to cover what the union was asking for.

Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept the 2019/2020 Budget Amendment, as presented and written. Seconded by Commissioner Hoke. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0. (3)

Commissioner Items:

Mere – Would like to make a recommendation regarding the Drone program – that we use non emergency personnel to run/assist. Chief Rice explained that it is used for initial assessment upon arrival on scene. We are one of the first Fire Districts to utilize a Drone, so there is a learning curve to be expected.

Ballard – suggested that we consider a specialty team for the Drone in union negotiations.

Public Input: Mrs. Ballard suggested that people be trained with the Drone, outside of the fire service.

Community Goodwill & Thank You:

Greater Naples Fire District

Commissioner Hoke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Nottingham. The motion was put to vote, and approved by the Board. All were in favor. The vote was 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Supportive Documents:

- 1. May 18, 2020 Minutes
- 2. May Treasurers Report
- 3. 2019/2020 Budget Amendment