

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

September 12, 2022  
2022-2023 Tentative Budget Hearing

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

**Present:**

Commissioners: Danny Ballard      Mike Gatewood  
                         Tom Mere              Robert Hoke

Chief Ronald Beecroft                      Assistant Chief John Manson  
Assistant Chief Eric Klos  
Office Manager Monique Brooks

**Absent:**      None

**Invocation:** Commissioner Mere

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Commissioner Ballard

**Public Input:** None

**Announce and Adopt the 2022/2023 Millage Rate:**

**Commissioner Ballard made a motion to accept Resolution 2022-002, which sets the proposed millage rate at 3.5 Mills, for fiscal year 2022-2023. Seconded by Commissioner Mere. There were no questions. The motion was put to vote, and the vote was 4-0. (1)**

**Presentation of 2022-2023 Tentative Budget:**

Office Manager Brooks proceeded to go over the line items of the revenues and then the expenditures of the tentative 2022-2023 budget. (2)

Ballard –

- What is the raise this year? 11%. Is that for everyone? Yes. Commissioner Ballard disagrees with that, he feels everyone else should negotiate with the Chief individually. Asst. Chief Manson noted that in order to keep the “gap” in between ranks we would need to take the raise the union receives. Commissioner Ballard noted that we have three personnel who do not have that separation between ranks. Those three personnel were not factored in when deciding the separation between ranks because they were in those positions prior to the separation of ranks. Commissioner Ballard suggested that you let Union DVP Slaybaugh know now that we need to cap those individuals pay rate. Monique noted that you have to consider years of service that some personnel have in, and that is why they have higher pay rates. Commissioner Ballard acknowledged this would result in grievances and if we need to add more money to legal fees, now would be the time to do that.
- Have the personnel voted on the contract yet? Yes, and it was approved.
- What else did the union ask for? They asked for 15% increase in wages, Establishment of a VEBA and 100% contribution towards dependent health insurance coverage? Did they receive it? The VEBA yes, no to 100% contribution for dependent health insurance premiums. Dependent Health insurance coverage is not part of the union contract, so that is not negotiable; however, the District is going to contribute 50% towards health insurance premiums for dependents. This amount is included in the Group Insurance line item.
- Cash brought forward – is there 12,252,8658 in reserves? Yes
- Are all personnel a part of the VEBA? No, the Union will decide weather all employees hired after 10/01/2006 will be a part of the VEBA or will they only choose employees who are not currently eligible (those hired after 10/01/2014). Commissioner Hoke noted that at least it is a starting point.
- The 3 new firefighters that are mentioned, have we already hired them or anticipating hiring more? Anticipating hiring three more.
- Has the Chief’s vehicle been ordered? Yes. Has the brush truck been ordered? Not yet, as we have not been able to find one.

**Commissioner Gatewood made a motion to accept Resolution 2022-003, which adopts the 2022-2023 Tentative budget, as presented, in the amount of \$25,071,784. Commissioner Hoke seconded. There were no questions. The motion was put to vote, and the vote was 3-1. (3)**

## **Presentation of the Tentative 2022/2023 Impact Fee Budget:**

Office Manager Brooks presented the Tentative 2022/2023 Impact Fee Budget.

**Commissioner Mere made a motion to accept the Tentative 2022/2023 Impact Fee budget, as presented. Commissioner Hoke seconded. There were no questions, the motion was put to vote, all were in favor, and the decision was unanimous, the vote was 4-0. (4)**

**Commissioner Gatewood made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ballard seconded. The motion was put to vote, all were in favor, and the decision was unanimous. 4-0**

Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

### Supportive Documents:

1. Resolution 2022-002
2. 2022/2023 Tentative Budget
3. Resolution 2022-003
4. 2022/2023 Tentative Impact Fee Budget