

August 18, 2016

The Board of Commissioners of the North River Fire District met in regular session on Thursday, August 18, 2016, at 6:00 P.M. in the Resource Center of Station Two.

Present:	Paul Pitcher	Chairman
	Donald Olmstead	Commissioner
	Amy Willis	Commissioner
	Scott Smith	Commissioner
	James Alderman	Commissioner
	Michael S. Rampino	Fire Chief
Absent:	Robert Bell	Vice-Chairman
	Michael Browning	Commissioner

Chairman Pitcher inquired if there was any public wishing to make comment; as no public was present or wishing to comment, Chairman Pitcher proceeded with the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held July 21, 2016 were approved on motion by Commissioner Olmstead, seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Commissioners briefly discussed the need to publish a Special Notice regarding a change in Commissioner salaries prior to any discussion at a regularly scheduled meeting as required by State Statute. Chairman Pitcher commented that he wanted to be sure the when this topic is discussed, all Commissioners are present. Commissioners agreed to authorize publication of the Special Notice 14 days prior to the September 22, 2016 meeting. Commissioner Olmstead motioned to authorize publication prior to the next meeting, seconded by Commissioner Willis and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Chief Rampino indicated it was necessary to establish the date for a public hearing to hear tax appeals from property owners on tax assessments. As the next regularly scheduled meeting falls on September 15, 2016 and conflicts with other taxing entities, it has been suggested to either move the Public Hearing to another date and keep the regular meeting on September 15 or to reschedule the next scheduled Commission meeting to September 22, 2016. Commissioner Alderman motioned to move the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting date to September 22, 2016 and to establish September 22, 2016 at 6 p.m. as the public hearing date and time for tax appeals and to authorize administration to advertise, seconded by Commissioner Olmstead and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Chief Rampino advised that a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$500,000.00 was being requested for the purchase of new apparatus. The funds will come from the committed reserve funds. He indicated that he will be

pursuing the pricing for the new truck in the coming week. There will probably be a 3 percent or greater increase in price from the last trucks purchased. Commissioner Olmstead motioned to approve a Budget Amendment in the amount of \$500,000.00 for the 2015/2016 fiscal year for new apparatus (engine), seconded by Commissioner Willis and carried by a vote of 5-0. Subsequently, upon the reading of Resolution No. 2016-05

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH RIVER FIRE DISTRICT
ADOPTING AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2015/2016 FISCAL
YEAR BUDGET**

by Chairman Pitcher, Commissioner Alderman motioned to approve Resolution No. 2016-05, seconded by Commissioner Willis and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Commissioners were advised by Chief Rampino that Administration was requesting a Budget Transfer within the General Fund in the amount of \$45,000.00 to cover Workers Comp Insurance expenses. The transfer would be from Health Insurance (7520) to Workers Compensation (7830). Commissioner Olmstead motioned to approve the transfer of \$45,000.00 of funds within the General Fund from Health Insurance (7520) to Workers Compensation (7830), seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Chairman Pitcher opened the Public Hearing to hear comments regarding the proposed 2016-2017 fiscal year budget. As no public was present or wishing to comment regarding the budget, Chairman Pitcher closed the Public Hearing and continued with the meeting.

The proposed 2016-2017 fiscal year budget was before the Commission for their consideration and adoption. Chief Rampino outlined key areas of the budget for the Commissioners. Some categories of the budget have been increased to cover rising costs or mandates. Monies will continue to be pushed forward as in previous budgets for apparatus as well as a Communications Alerting System and a 4-Year Bunker Gear Replacement program. Money must also be pushed forward for the eventual purchase of property and construction of a new replacement station. Priorities will have to be established as to which station and when. Commissioner Alderman motioned to approve the 2016-2017 fiscal year budget, seconded by Commissioner Willis and carried by a vote of 5-0. Upon approval of the budget Commissioner Alderman motioned to approve Resolution No. 2016-06

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH RIVER FIRE DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE 2016/2017 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET**

The Financial Services Manager, Vicky Polston indicated that the Tax Collector's Office had recently notified the District about an error by one of its vendors in disbursing the appropriate funds to the District. Further information from their office was expected. She reported that we typically budget at 97% and that there was an outstanding \$85,000.00 in "litigation" of

taxes. It is expected that the District will eventually receive all of these outstanding funds. The current budget categories in the July Financial Report are in good order with 2 months to go in the fiscal year. Commissioner Willis motioned to approve the July, 2016 Financial Report, seconded by Commissioner Olmstead and carried by a vote of 5-0.

Chief Rampino reported that as previously indicated our health insurance rates increased by approximately 28%. The District saw a 117% claims experience. This translates to about a \$90,000.00 increase in premiums. The District may seek a RFP for insurance services next year.

Andrell Miller has successfully interviewed and been chosen as the next Fire Marshal, effective October 1, 2016. The District may seek a civilian employee to fill the vacated fire inspector slot.

The District has secured the services of the National Testing Network for processing of firefighter candidates seeking employment with the District. Chief also advised that Captain Wayne Glenfield will be retiring on September 30, 2016.

Commissioner Olmstead motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 5-0.

PAUL J. PITCHER
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:
