

September 22, 2016

The Board of Commissioners of the North River Fire District met in regular session on Thursday, September 22, 2016, at 6:00 P.M. in the Resource Center of Station Two.

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

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 August 18, 2016 were approved on motion by Commissioner Browning, seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Chief Rampino indicated that two individuals were present at the meeting who were being promoted: Andrell Miller to Fire Marshal and Blair Pontious to Captain. Both individuals were pinned by family members and congratulations were offered on their achievement.

Chairman Pitcher opened the Public Hearing to hear appeals on fire tax assessments. As there was no public present for the appeal process, the Public Hearing was closed. Resolution 2016-07 regarding Fire Assessment Appeals was before the Commission for approval. Chairman Pitcher read aloud Resolution No. 2016-07 reflecting that there were no appeals. Commissioner Bell motioned to approve Resolution No. 2016-07, seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Commissioners had before them for consideration an update of the current salaries that Commission Members are compensated. Commissioners briefly discussed the options that Florida State Statute provides for and decided that it would be appropriate to compensate the Treasurer at the higher rate of \$300.00 per month and the remaining Commissioners at \$250.00 monthly. Commissioner Browning motioned to approve a change in salary per State Statute for the Treasurer position to \$300.00 per month and a salary of \$250.00 per month for the remaining Commission Members, seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Resolution 2016-08

**A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTH RIVER FIRE DISTRICT
ADOPTING SALARIES FOR FIRE COMMISSIONER BOARD
MEMBERS**

was before the Board for approval. Commissioner Alderman motioned to approve Resolution 2016-08, seconded by Commissioner Willis and carried by a vote of 7/0.

Chairman Pitcher read Ordinance No. 30 into the record for its first reading:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE NORTH RIVER FIRE DISTRICT, MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, FURTHER AMENDING THE NORTH RIVER FIRE DISTRICT FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT TRUST FUND, RESTATED PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 23, AS SUBSEQUENTLY AMENDED; AMENDING SECTION 1, DEFINITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 4, FINANCES AND FUND MANAGEMENT; AMENDING SECTION 6, BENEFIT AMOUNTS AND ELIGIBILITY; AMENDING SECTION 10, OPTIONAL FORMS OF BENEFITS; AMENDING SECTION 15, MAXIMUM PENSION; AMENDING SECTION 16, MINIMUM DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS; AMENDING SECTION 17, MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS; AMENDING SECTION 29, DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN; AMENDING SECTION 30, SUPPLEMENTAL BENEFIT; CHAPTER 175 SHARE ACCOUNTS; ADDING SECTION 31, POST RETIREMENT INVESTMENT ACCOUNT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Commissioner Bell motioned to establish October 20, 2016, the next regularly scheduled Commission meeting, as the Public Hearing date for Ordinance 30 to be heard and approved, seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 7-0.

The 2015/2016 inventory dispositions were made available for Commissioners' review. Chief Rampino indicated that most of the items had been surplused on Govedeals. Commissioner Smith motioned to approve the 2015/2016 inventory dispositions, seconded by Commissioner Browning and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Chief Rampino indicated that the Lease Agreement with American Tower had been tweaked and was being brought back to the Board for their approval and signature. Terms remain the same as those discussed at the July meeting. Commissioner Alderman motioned to approve the lease agreement with American Tower, seconded by Commissioner Browning and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Commissioners had before them the NRRFD Firefighters' Retirement Trust Fund Budget for October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017. This is provided for informational purposes and approval by the Commission. Commissioner Browning motioned to approve the 2016-17 Pension Budget as presented, seconded by Commissioner Willis and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Administration is seeking approval from the Fire Commission to contact and/or negotiate with the State of Florida Deferred Compensation Plan or another 457 deferred comp plan to allow for an additional voluntary plan to be available to employees. Commissioner Alderman motioned to approve contact with an additional voluntary 457 deferred comp plan, seconded by Commissioner Bell and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Chief Rampino indicated that Collective Bargaining Agreement Articles 20, 35, and 37 had been reopened for negotiation with labor and were up for approval by Commissioners. Chief Rampino briefed Commissioners in a pre-Commission Meeting "in the shade" regarding changes to these Articles. The Articles had been presented to the union membership and had been approved. These Articles reflect Holiday Pay, Health Insurance, and Pay Plan. Commissioner Browning motioned to approve the Articles of Agreement 20, 35 and 37 for FY 2016/2017, seconded by Commissioner Bell and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Chief Rampino indicated that the budget was in good shape. He expects the numbers available in October to better reflect the final fiscal year budget for 2015/2016. The financial report for the month ending August 31, 2016 was presented. A motion was made by Commissioner Alderman to approve the August 2016 report, seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried by a vote of 7-0.

In Chief Rampino's Administration Report he indicated as he had at a previous meeting that the District was using the National Testing Network as a resource for new hires. Recently 47 candidates were available for review of which 18 were interviewed. Jonathan Khouri has been selected as a new hire pending the outcome of a background and physical. He should be starting October 10.

Chief indicated that instead of hiring a full-time fire inspector for the Fire Prevention Bureau he would rather hire a part-time fire inspector and use the salary savings toward funding another firefighter position. He would like to move toward having 3 firefighters on a truck. He indicated that with the savings and funds already in the budget, there would be no need to move any monies around in the budget. He was seeking a consensus of the Board for approval of this adjustment in personnel. Commissioner Bell motioned to approve the hiring of an additional full-time firefighter, seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Commissioners all offered congratulations to the Fire Marshal, Andrell Miller and the newest Captain, Blair Pontious.

Commissioner Bell motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried by a vote of 7-0.

PAUL J. PITCHER
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:
