

April 20, 2017

The Board of Commissioners of the North River Fire District met in regular session on Thursday, April 20, 2017, at 6:00 P.M. in the Resource Center of Station Two.

Present:	Paul Pitcher	Chairman
	Robert Bell	Vice-Chairman
	Amy Willis	Commissioner
	Michael Browning	Commissioner
	Scott Smith	Commissioner
	James Alderman	Commissioner
	Harry L. Blenker	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 March 16, 2017 were approved on motion by Commissioner Bell, seconded by Commissioner Browning and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Chief Rampino conducted a pinning ceremony for recently promoted Captain Matthew Redmond, who was “pinned” by both his wife and his mother. Congratulations were offered to Captain Redmond on his achievement.

Chief advised Commissioners that the Commission had for their consideration the Tax Assessment Rates for 2017, which were being recommended for approval with a 4.06% increase, based upon the Florida Personal Income Growth Rate calculations from the BEA. Chairman Pitcher opened the Public Hearing to hear comments regarding adoption of the proposed resolution setting fire assessment rates for 2017.

As there was no public present who wished to speak, Commissioner Browning motioned to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Commissioner Alderman and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Commissioner Smith motioned to approve Resolution 2017-01 with the 4.06% increase

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE NORTH RIVER FIRE DISTRICT ADOPTING FIRE ASSESSMENT RATES FOR 2017, AUTHORIZING REVIEW OF THE FIRE ASSESSMENT ROLL, DESIGNATING AN INDIVIDUAL TO REVIEW AND TRANSMIT FIRE ASSESSMENT ROLL TO THE MANATEE COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

seconded by Commissioner Browning and carried by a vote of 7-0.

Administrative Services Manager, Vicky Polston, reported that recently an additional \$250K in tax assessments had been received, and there still remained approximately \$250K to be collected. Additional Impact Fee funds of \$23,000 have also been received. The financial report for the month ending March 31, 2017 was presented. A motion was

made by Commissioner Browning to approve the March 2017 report, seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried by a vote of 7-0.

During Chief Rampino's Administrative Report he advised the Commissioners that the COPCN process was continuing, with our Attorney and the County Attorney reviewing details of the agreement. It is expected that the Manatee County BOCC will have this item on their next meeting agenda. Once they have approved the agreement, North River can make application, which is renewable every two years. West and Southern Manatee Fire Districts have jumped right in, although we will not be obligated to begin immediately. Chief provided the Commission with an ALS Non-Transport Engines summary of costs to implement this program for their information and review. This report reflects an approximation of costs to begin the program.

Chief also indicated that the EPR contract for the Fireworks Software Program should be ready for approval at the next Commission Meeting. There would be no cost to the District for the first two years, but starting with the third year of the contract the cost would be \$10,000 per year. The amount is approximately 10% less than most software developers charge. We are currently in the first year of this time period.

Chief advised that Captain Matthew Thornton would be officially retiring on May 1, 2017; thus the promotion of Engineer Matthew Redmond to Captain.

The State EOC has approached Chief Rampino to be the liaison for Region 6. It is a voluntary position and Chief has not decided whether he would fill this position. Region 6 covers Manatee, Sarasota and Charlotte Counties.

ISO personnel came in for an inspection of the District. We can expect to hear the result of their survey of NRPD in the next 6 months. It is anticipated that the rating may increase from a 4 to a 3. The process was very "user friendly". We receive no credit for our aerial ladder truck as it is less than 100 ft.

Commissioners all extended their congratulations to both Matthew Thornton on his retirement and Matthew Redmond on his promotion. Commissioner Browning indicated that awards were presented to past members at the last Manatee County Fire Commissioners Association. He also indicated that the group had discussed the ALS Non-Transport Engines and he was in favor of the additional services this would offer to our residents.

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

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PAUL J. PITCHER  
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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