

BAYSHORE FIRE PROTECTION & RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING
September 5, 2008

8:00 PM Call to order by Commissioner Hansen for the Bayshore Fire Protection & Rescue Service District Board of Commissioners Tentative Budget Hearing, subsequent to recess of Regular September 5, 2008 Board of Commissioners Meeting.

No roll call required as same Commissioners and Administrative Staff present
Others Present: Some Public and Staff

Tentative Millage Rate to fund budget is announced as 3.50% which is 4.09% below the Rollback Rate announced as 3.6493% an actual roll-up from last years' 3.4

Chief presents Power Point Presentation outlining the details of the various potential millage rates up for discussion namely

- 3.50% (the advertised proposed millage),
- 3.45% (median millage rate below proposed & Rollback but above last year)
- 3.40% (last years' adopted millage rate)

Brief Details are as follows:

- 3.50% Yields \$1,520,292 ad valorem taxes
A decrease from last year of \$53,687
Retained unencumbered reserves \$335,075.56
- 3.45% Yields \$1,498,573 ad valorem taxes
A decrease from last year of \$75,406
Retained unencumbered reserves \$312,213.48
- 3.40% Yields \$1,476,855 ad valorem taxes
A decrease from last year of \$97,124
Retained unencumbered reserves \$292,507.30

Chief covered line items of Proposed Tentative Budget with highlights being:

Reductions to Income

- Anticipated Interest 2007-08 of \$35,000 less than budgeted
Therefore only anticipating \$5,000 coming year
- Obvious Yield reduction above depending upon Millage voted
- Allowance 2008-2009 budget for Accumulated Vacation not allowed for
In previous budget but current liability
- Loss of rental income \$6,000 possibly reappearing for next budget in
unknown sum, but remains loss for 2008-2009 purposes

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Reductions to Non-Personnel Related Expenses \$174,723.10
Budgetary cuts of \$85,003.46 from 2007-2008

Chief Nisbet states he is trying to maintain reserves while facing demands of older, outdated and obsolete equipment and apparatus, increasing fuel, maintenance and insurance costs. He advises the tender is now 32 years old and he is told that the air system (Breathing Air Systems) will be obsolete and parts will be unavailable in about a year. Chief and Commissioner Ducrou have tried very hard in negotiating the Union contract to be fair to staff in comparison with other comparable neighboring districts and have offset some of the overtime strain on the budget by a Union contract calling for shift exchanges in lieu of leave for education which will cut into an individuals' education allowance, and vacation buybacks at straight time instead of vacations that both instances cost time and a half the covering employees wages to fill. Chief Nisbet is also looking into grants both state and federal to help fund some of the necessary needs of the department. Actual impact of bargaining unit is \$26,000 to budget. Estimated 3 month reserves required: \$450,000 based on last 4 months, minimum \$300,000 as law requires 2 months reserves, with a board vote of 3 months.

Commissioner Ducrou explains that reserves are dropping already with the 3.45% millage vote and that the department has made tremendous improvements of late to equipment concerns and that we now have a Professional Chief and have cut out the part time officers in lieu of Full Time Paid Professional Staff, all for the betterment of service to the district and we do have a responsibility to its' residents.

Commissioner Hansen calls for Motions twice for the 3.45% millage and receives first and second motions but votes not agreed.

Commissioner Cook is dead against increasing taxes with the present state of economy and the present reserves. He states he does not feel we should increase wages, and add to fleet and increase taxes to cover us.

Public Input – Matt Daggett speaks from a construction company owners' point of view and asks we seriously consider not raising taxes when other people are getting laid off. He asks the Chief what kind of pay cut he has taken. Chief Nisbet responds that he has taken a \$15,000 a year cut to come to our district, because he truly cares about the department and the residents of a district in which he also resides.

Due to error in the 3.40% printed material totals Tentative Hearing recessed from 8:43 and regular board meeting resumes at 8:48 while office manager reworks the 3.40 millage proposed budget sample.

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Meeting reconvenes at 9:40pm

Chief Nisbet reiterates his primary concern is the impact to the unencumbered reserves that remain. He will work with whatever decision the board makes, and is trying to come up with other venues for revenues, such as a potential lease with Lee County EMS but that is probably a year out as they too have a budget to maintain, and they were not given time to allow for it in their budget. He has also cut the budget, perhaps too much in some areas, and is trying to provide the district with the highest quality services.

Commissioner Ducrou does not agree with raising taxes at this time. He is also upset that the equipment has been let go to the extent it has and remarks that when he made mention of the exhaust falling off the engine, he was told it had been like that for 7 years. He is not happy that pump tests were not performed as they should have been.

Commissioner Griffin points out that reserves are not really in excess of 90 days.

Commissioner Hansen calls again for motion.

Commissioner Ducrou motions once again to accept 3.45% as TENTATIVE MILLAGE.
Commissioner Griffin seconds the motion. Vote is called.

Commissioner Hansen – Aye

Commissioner Ducrou – Aye

Commissioner Griffin – Aye

Commissioner Cook – Nay

Tentative Millage is accepted at 10:15pm

Still some discussion as to when we must set millage and budget. Office Manager states we must come up with TENTATIVE MILLAGE AND BUDGET so that we can advertise our intent prior to the FINAL HEARING which is the 18th of September at 7:00pm. The News Press requires a 1 week notice to publish and the advertisement must run no earlier than 5 days prior and no later than 2 days prior.

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Commissioner Ducrou motions to accept TENTATIVE BUDGET line items as presented.
Commissioner Griffin seconds the motion. Vote is called.

Commissioner Hansen – Aye

Commissioner Ducrou – Aye

Commissioner Griffin – Aye

Commissioner Cook – Nay

Tentative Budget is accepted at 10:35pm

Motion to Adjourn - made by Commissioner Ducrou, Second by Commissioner Griffin. Vote called, Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:37pm.