

MINUTES

LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT

BUDGET HEARING

September 10, 2008

The September 10, 2008 Tentative Budget Hearing of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District Board of Commissioners was opened at 5:01pm by President Berndt. Present were: Commissioners, Hemingway, Berndt, Guzman, Adams and Barrett; Chief Adams, Assistant Chief's Haugh and Duncan, EMS Division Chief Mike Pcolar, Fire Marshal Ken Bennett, Administrative Assistant Susan Platas, Bookkeeper Anita Kressel, and Secretary Jill Marcolini. Attorney Richard Pringle was also in attendance.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Berndt asked Chief Don Adams to give the invocation.

Commissioner Berndt stated that this is a Tentative Budget Hearing for the proposed budget for the 2008/2009 fiscal year.

Attorney Pringle began the meeting by stating that this is a Tentative Budget Hearing and we are required by law to take action to adopt a tentative millage rate and adoption of budget resolution.

Commissioner Berndt stated "The Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District is proposing a millage rate for the 2008/2009 fiscal year of 2.7517 mills. This will help fund the proposed budget of \$26,991.772. The proposed millage rate of 2.7517 mills is a 26.93% decrease over the roll-back rate of 3.7659".

ADOPTION OF MILLAGE RATE: Chairman Berndt read the Millage Rate Resolution # 08-09-01 the proposed millage rate for the 2008/2009 fiscal year as 2.7517 mills, which begins October 1, 2008.

Commissioner Berndt asked the Commissioners for discussion on the millage rate.
None Noted.

Public Questions or Comments on Proposed tentative millage: None.

Commissioner Hemingway made a motion to adopt resolution #08-09-01 as read, seconded by Commissioner Guzman.

Roll Call:
All Commissioners,

Adams aye
Guzman aye
Barrett aye
Hemingway aye
Berndt aye
Motion Passed.

Commissioner Berndt stated that proposed millage rate of 2.7517 mills passed by Lehigh Acres Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners on this date September 10, 2008.

Chief Adams reviewed the Estimated Revenues and Estimated Expenditures.

Commissioner Berndt asked for discussion on the adoption of the budget resolution.

- Chief Adams stated the District will be hiring 9 firefighters after October 1, and evaluate the economy and the future hiring of 6 more employees after December.
- Commissioner Adams concern was hiring the new employees and possibly laying them off next year if the economy does down.
- Commissioner Hemingway questioned the Bad Debt expense line item. His questions were answered by Bookkeeper Anita Kressel and Chief Adams.

Public questions or comments on the proposed tentative budget. None

ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTION: Chairman Berndt read the Adoption of the Budget Resolution # 08-09-02 as required by law to tentatively adopt the budget from the millage rate. Attorney Pringle stated to Commissioner Berndt that a motion needs to be made to accept the Adoption of the Budget \$26,991,772. Commissioner Guzman made a motion to accept resolution # 08-09-02 as read with a second by Commissioner Barrett.

Roll Call:
All Commissioners,

Adams aye
Guzman aye
Berndt aye
Barrett aye
Hemingway aye

Motion Passed.

Commissioner Berndt stated that proposed Budget of \$26,991,772 passed by Lehigh Acres Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners on this date September 10, 2008.

The public hearing to adopt the final budget for the 2008/2009 fiscal year shall be held on September 23, 2008 at 5:01 p.m. at Veterans Park Recreation Center, 55 Homestead Rd., S, Lehigh Acres, FL.

Commissioner Guzman motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Barrett second.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.