

## **MINUTES**

### **LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT**

#### **FINAL BUDGET HEARING**

**September 21, 2010**

The September 21, 2010 Final 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, Adams and Barrett; Chief Adams, Assistant Chief Watson, Fire Marshal Bennett, Administrative Assistant Platas and Finance Manager VanKlingeren. Attorney Richard Pringle was also in attendance.

Commissioner Berndt stated that this is a Final Budget Hearing for the proposed budget for the 2010/2011 fiscal year.

Commissioner Berndt stated “The Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District is proposing a millage rate for the 2010/2011 fiscal year of 3.000 mills. This will help fund the proposed budget of \$25,266,146. The proposed millage rate of 3.000 mills is a 22.83% decrease over the roll-back rate of 3.8875”.

#### **Public Comment on Millage:**

Kevin Shea raised the issue of the uncollected debt in the line item that has zero in it. He also questioned line 522.1230. The very preliminary outlook for property is approx 5% decrease in property value.

Mr. King stated the big elephant in the budget is salaries and benefits. You don't get enough money in your taxes to pay the salaries and benefits. You are going to have to cut your salaries and benefits a minimum of 30%. Commissioner Hemingway would like to see a fire assessment. They were killed in the elections. If you think in Lehigh that you are getting an assessment through, you're dreaming.

#### **Commissioners Comments:**

Commissioner Hemingway commented on the Cash Carried Forward. Finance Manager Ben VanKlingeren explained to Commissioners the breakdown of the Budget. He also commented on moving Station 102 off Homestead Road. We should try to lower the millage in order to hand over the budget to the new Commissioners coming onboard in November.

Commissioner Adams stated when the Safer Grant runs out we are going to lose a lot of people.

Commissioner Berndt stated we identified a hole and asked the employees to find a portion of it. We should not be calling in to question employee salaries and benefits. He is surprised that Commissioner Hemingway waited until the final budget hearing to want to make changes.

Commissioner Hemingway stated he brought forth charging a flat tax three times but was voted down each time.

Commissioner Berndt stated he never said Commissioner Hemingway was wrong about the flat tax.... it's just a matter of timing.

Commissioner Berndt read Millage Rate Resolution #10-09-03 adopting a final millage rate of 3.000 mills for October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011.

Commissioner Berndt motioned that we adopt the Millage Resolution #10-09-03 with a second from Commissioner Barrett.

Commissioner Hemingway – nay  
Commissioner Adams - aye  
Commissioner Barrett – aye  
Commissioner Berndt – aye

Motion passed 3-1 with the opposing vote from Commissioner Hemingway.

Commissioner Berndt stated we have a resolution to adopt budget for 2010/2011. Attorney Pringle read Resolution #10-09-04 adopting a final budget in the amount of \$25,266,146 for October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011.

Commissioner Berndt motioned that we adopt the budget resolution #10-09-04 with a second from Commissioner Adams.

Commissioner Hemingway – nay  
Commissioner Adams- aye  
Commissioner Barrett – aye  
Commissioner Berndt – aye

Motion passed 3-1 with the opposing vote from Commissioner Hemingway .

Motion to adjourn: 6:14.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-09-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011, COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2011; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District properly advertised and held a final public budget hearing on Tuesday, September 21, 2010, to adopt a final budget for the District's fiscal year commencing October 1, 2010, and ending September 30, 2011.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT THAT:

Section 1. The final budget of estimated expenditures and revenue for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2010, and ending September 30, 2011, is \$25,266,146.

Section 2. The final budget is approved and shall become effective at the beginning of the 2010/2011 fiscal year on October 1, 2010, and the taxing authority funds may be expended commencing on October 1, 2010, and ending on September 30, 2011.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COMMISSIONER Berndt WHO MOVED THE RESOLUTION'S ADOPTION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER Adams AND, UPON BEING PUT TO A VOTE, THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Commissioner Jeffery Berndt  
Commissioner Julie Barrett  
Commissioner David P. Adams  
Commissioner Ralph Hemingway

Aye  
Aye  
Aye  
Nay

Duly passed and adopted on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2010.

Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District

By: [Signature]  
Jeffery Berndt, Chair

Attest by: [Signature]  
David P. Adams, Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 10-09-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT ADOPTING THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011, COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2010, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2011; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District properly advertised and held a final public budget hearing to adopt a final millage rate for the District's fiscal year commencing October 1, 2010, and ending September 30, 2011.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE LEHIGH ACRES FIRE CONTROL AND RESCUE DISTRICT THAT:

Section 1. The Governing Board does hereby adopt its final millage rate of 3.0000 mills to be levied for the general fund upon all real and tangible personal property located within the boundaries of the above named taxing authority.

Section 2. THE FINAL LEVY OF 3.0000 MILLS IS LESS THAN THE ROLLED BACK RATE OF 3.8875 MILLS BY 22.83 %.

Section 3. This final millage rate of mills for the general fund is to fund the expenses for the fiscal year commencing October 1, 2010, and ending September 30, 2011.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS OFFERED BY COMMISSIONER Berndt WHO MOVED THE RESOLUTION'S ADOPTION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER Barrett AND, UPON BEING PUT TO A VOTE, THE VOTE WAS AS FOLLOWS:

Commissioner Jeffery Berndt  
Commissioner Julie Barrett  
Commissioner David P. Adams  
Commissioner Ralph Hemingway

Aye  
Aye  
Aye  
NAY

Duly passed and adopted on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2010.

Board of Commissioners of the Lehigh Acres Fire Control and Rescue District

By: [Signature]  
Jeffery Berndt, Chair

Attest by: [Signature]  
David P. Adams, Secretary