

**FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE & RESCUE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
TENTATIVE BUDGET HEARING  
September 6, 2018  
MINUTES**

**Call Meeting to Order**

Commissioner Apperson called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Ragen, Detzel, Kimball, Schneider and Apperson. Also in attendance were Chief Dowaliby, Attorney Pringle, Engineer Rewis, Administrative Assistant Howard and Firefighter Pledger.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

Attorney Pringle briefly reviewed the purpose of the Preliminary Budget Hearing and the Budget process. This a special hearing of the Board of Fire Commissioners to adopt your Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Budget and you will also need to set your final meeting date, time and location. Florida statute governs what can and must be accomplished at this hearing. The first item is the announcement of the rolled-back rate and the proposed millage rate, and then the Chief will review the reasons for the proposed millage and budget. Then you will go forward with adopting the resolutions to set first the tentative millage rate and then the tentative budget.

**Rolled-Back Rate**

Attorney Pringle announced that the rolled back rate is 1.9190 mills (or \$1.9190 per \$1,000.00 of taxable assessed value). The proposed millage rate is 2.0000 mills (\$2.00 per \$1,000.00 of taxable assessed value), which is an increase of 4.22% over the rolled-back rate. The rolled-back rate is the millage rate that we would need to levy in order to collect the same ad valorem as last fiscal year.

Chief Dowaliby reviewed the millage and budget. The District has one of the lowest millage caps in the county, but we still offer a good service to our residents. The surrounding districts are all pretty much topped out at their caps of 3.50 to 3.75 mills, but our cap is only 2.00 mills. We are proposing that we levy 2.00 mills and we have based our tentative budget on that millage. The difference between the rolled-back rate and the proposed millage is about \$8 per \$100,000 of assessed value, so the difference on a \$500,000 home would be about \$40.

The proposed millage rate of 2.00 mills still allows us to carry out some much-needed capital improvements, new programs such as advanced EMT and confined space rescue, and still continue to put aside funds for building for the future. We are moving Bobby into administration and hire a new firefighter to keep each shift fully manned at five personnel. I am not taking a raise at this time, and the total payroll is going down a bit this year even though the current employees are receiving pay increases through step raises and the new incentive plans. The slight decrease in the payroll is due to the fact that we had two higher paid employees retire when Chief Duncan and Captain Summerall left.

**Public Input and Discussion of Proposed Millage Rate**

None, no public present.

**Resolution #2018-03 – Adoption of Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Tentative Millage Rate**

Attorney Pringle read the title of the resolution into the record as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT ADOPTING A TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019, COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2018, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2019; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The substantive portion of the resolution reads: “The Board of Commissioners of the Fort Myers Shores Fire Protection and Rescue Service District hereby adopts and sets the tentative operating millage rate of 2.0000 mills (\$2.00 per \$1,000.00 of net taxable assessed value) for the fiscal year 2018/2019, which begins October 1, 2018, and ends September 30, 2019. The above stated tentative millage rate of 2.0000 mills exceeds the rolled back rate of 1.9190 mills by 4.22%.”

**Adoption of Resolution #2018-03**

Commissioner Kimball made a motion to adopt the Resolution, Commissioner Ragen seconded and upon being put to a roll-call vote, the motion passed as follows:

Commissioner Apperson – Yes; Commissioner Detzel – Yes; Commissioner Kimball – Yes;

Commissioner Schneider – Yes; Commissioner Ragen – Yes

**Resolution #2018-04 – Adoption of Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Tentative Budget**

Attorney Pringle read the title of the resolution into the record as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE FORT MYERS SHORES FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT ADOPTING A TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019, COMMENCING

ON OCTOBER 1, 2018, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2019; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The substantive portion of the resolution reads: “The Board of Commissioners of the Fort Myers Shores Fire Protection and Rescue Service District hereby adopts and sets the tentative budget setting forth the appropriations and revenue estimate for the fiscal year 2018/2019, which begins October 1, 2018, and ends on September 30, 2019, in the amount of \$10,727,444.00.”

**Public Input and Discussion of the Proposed Tentative Budget**

None, no public present.

**Adoption of Resolution #2018-04**

Commissioner Detzel made a motion to adopt the resolution and Commissioner Schneider seconded.

Upon being put to a roll-call vote the motion passed as follows:

Commissioner Apperson – Yes; Commissioner Detzel – Yes; Commissioner Kimball – Yes;

Commissioner Schneider – Yes; Commissioner Ragen – Yes

**Set Date, Time and Location for the Final Budget Hearing**

After some discussion Commissioner Detzel made a motion to hold the final budget hearing on September 20, 2018 at 7:15 p.m. at Ft. Myers Shores Fire Station 1 located at 12345 Palm Beach Blvd. Commissioner Kimball seconded and the motion passed.

**Adjourn**

Commissioner Ragen made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Detzel seconded and the motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.