

Minutes of the Public Hearings

Adoption of 2023-2024 Preliminary Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rates to Existing and Recently Added Properties to the District's Boundaries – Resolution 2023-01

Adoption of Setting a Public Hearing to Adopt a Final Assessment Roll – Resolution 2023-02

And

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners Cedar Hammock Fire Control District May 18, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Getman at 6:00 p.m. The following commissioners were present: Richard G. Findlay, Ronald D. Getman, Samuel A. Reasoner, and John H. Stevens. Commissioner Matarese was absent with good reason.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pastor Pavkovich led the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

QUORUM

Chairman Getman confirmed a physically present quorum for the meeting. The meeting was properly advertised.

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Getman asked if there was any discussion of the minutes or the Treasurer's report. There was no discussion.

ACTION: Commissioner Reasoner moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Chairman Getman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Chief Bradshaw announced the Years of Service Awards to the following personnel:

Deputy Fire Marshal Massella – 20 Years
Firefighter Pillsbury – 20 Years
Firefighter Adams – 5 Years
Firefighter Clegg – 5 Years
Firefighter Dirmeyer – 5 Years
Firefighter Garside – 5 Years
Firefighter Hill – 5 Years
Firefighter Howell – 5 Years
Firefighter Melcher – 5 Years

Firefighter Morrissey – 5 Years
Firefighter Scaffedi – 5 Years
Firefighter Stiscak – 1 Year

Chief Bradshaw presented a Certificate of Promotion to Third Class to Firefighters Herrera, Rash, and Stiscak, who were present at the meeting. Firefighter Ingram will be presented a Certificate of Promotion to Third Class at a later date.

RECESS REGULAR MEETING

Chairman Getman recessed the regular meeting at 6:09 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING / - 2023-2024 PRELIMINARY NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENT RATES TO EXISTING AND RECENTLY ADDED PROPERTIES TO THE DISTRICT'S BOUNDARIES - RESOLUTION 2023-01

Chairman Getman called the Public Hearing to order and requested verification of the Public Notice of the public hearing. Administration Support Manager McCaughan confirmed a copy of the advertisement and affidavit will be included in the permanent record of the minutes.

Chief Bradshaw presented Resolution 2023-01, a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the Cedar Hammock Fire Control District; adopting a preliminary non-ad valorem assessment roll; imposing a non-ad valorem assessment on properties recently added to the boundaries following approval of a November 8, 2022, referendum of the qualified voters and the adoption of Chapter 2022-242, Laws of Florida. The District's jurisdictional boundaries were expanded to include all real properties generally located within the Trailer Estates Park and Recreation District, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

The District seeks to levy non-ad valorem assessments against the newly added properties that receive services from the District in accordance with the previously established schedule of non-ad valorem assessments and the proposed budget, which is attached as Exhibit 2.

When an assessment is to be imposed on newly affected property owners following a district boundary change, this requires specific notice to the affected taxpayers and advertised public hearings on the proposed assessment; the District is authorized to utilize a uniform method of collecting its authorized non-ad valorem fire assessments and the District has elected to utilize the uniform method.

The Board of Fire Commissioners held a properly advertised public hearing on May 18, 2023. Florida law requires the Board of Fire Commissioners to adopt by resolution the non-ad valorem fire assessment rates to be charged to each category of table real property prior to June 1 of the tax year for which the assessment is to be levied. The non-ad valorem assessment rates set by the Board of Fire Commissioners may exceed the maximum rates established by the previous year's resolution not to exceed the average annual growth rate in Florida personal income over the previous five years and should be determined by using data provided by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. District staff presented evidence to the Board of Fire Commissioners that the BEA data over the previous five years is 6.7%. The District staff applied the 6.7% to the previous year's non-ad valorem assessment rates attached as Exhibit 3.

Based upon the presentation, the Board of Fire Commissioners hereby adopts the BEA standard to determine the applicable assessment rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Therefore, be it resolved the Board of Fire Commissioners finds that the recitals set forth above are true and correct and are hereby adopted.

The 2023-2024 Preliminary Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rate Schedule attached as Exhibit 3 to this

resolution is hereby approved and adopted fully by reference. The Board of Fire Commissioners authorizes the Fire Chief, or his designee to review the preliminary non-ad valorem fire assessment roll prepared for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 and beyond and note any corrections and or adjustments. This includes the authority to transmit the assessment roll, including corrections and adjustments to the Manatee County Property Appraiser for the purpose of placing the assessment on the annual property tax bill. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption of the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Chairman Getman opened the Public Hearing for the 2023-2024 Preliminary Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rates to Existing and Recently Added Properties to the District's Boundaries for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Getman closed the Public Hearing for the 2023-2024 Preliminary Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rates to Existing and Recently Added Properties to the District's Boundaries for public comments.

The Board of Fire Commissioners deliberated the Adoption of Resolution 2023-01.

ACTION: Vice Chairman Findlay moved to adopt Resolution 2023-01 for the 2023-2024 Preliminary Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rates to Existing and Recently Added Properties to the District's Boundaries as presented. Chairman Getman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Chairman Getman adjourned the Public Hearing for the 2023-2024 Preliminary Non-Ad Valorem Assessment Rates to Existing and Recently Added Properties to the District's Boundaries.

PUBLIC HEARING / -SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ADOPTION OF A FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLL- RESOLUTION 2023-02

Chairman Getman called the Public Hearing to order and requested verification of the Public Notice of the public hearing. Administration Support Manager McCaughan confirmed a copy of the advertisement and affidavit will be included in the permanent record of the minutes.

Chief Bradshaw presented Resolution 2023-02, a resolution of the Board of Commissioners of the Cedar Hammock Fire Control District. On May 18, 2023, the Fire Chief and Administration presented to the Board of Fire Commissioners a proposed preliminary budget for the fiscal year 2023/2024 and a preliminary assessment roll. The preliminary assessment roll included properties that were recently added to the jurisdictional boundaries pursuant to Chapter 2022-242 that is generally referred to as the Trailer Estates Park and Recreational District. At the public hearing, the Board adopted the preliminary assessment roll for fiscal year 2023/2024, Resolution 2023-01.

The Board hereby seeks to set a time and place for any District property owners that are subject to non-ad valorem assessments for the fire time due to the boundary change, to appear before the Board to be heard on matters relating the District's assessments.

The public hearing shall be set July 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm at the District's Administration Office at 5200 26th Street West, Bradenton, Florida 34207.

The District's Fire Chief or his designee is hereby authorized to provide mailed and published notice of the final assessment roll adoption hearing in the manner prescribed by Florida law.

This resolution is effective immediately upon adoption by the Board.

Chairman Getman opened the Public Hearing for the Setting of a Public Hearing on the Adoption of a Final Assessment Roll for public comments.

There were no public comments.

Chairman Getman closed the Public Hearing for the Setting of a Public Hearing on the Adoption of a Final Assessment Roll for public comments.

The Board of Fire Commissioners deliberated the Adoption of Resolution 2023-02.

ACTION: Commissioner Stevens moved to adopt Resolution 2023-02 for the Setting of a Public Hearing on the Adoption of a Final Assessment Roll as presented. Commissioner Reasoner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Chairman Getman adjourned the Public Hearing for the Setting of a Public Hearing on the Adoption of a Final Assessment Roll.

Chairman Getman resumed the regular meeting at 6:21 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

OLD BUSINESS

New Engine Update

Deputy Chief Falcone informed the Engine Spec Committee would be traveling to Appleton, Wisconsin the last week of June 2023, for the final inspection of the new engine.

Pending Litigation

Chief Bradshaw explained that two other defendants along with Cedar Hammock Fire Control District have filed Motions to Dismiss. There has been no correspondence from the bench and our attorney has requested a hearing for dismissal.

Contract Negotiations

Deputy Chiefs Falcone and Center have met with Local 2546 representatives and DVP Reda on two separate occasions. They have reviewed ten articles. Deputy Chief Falcone said the negotiations are going incredibly well. The next meeting will take place May 31, 2023.

DOT Update

The Board discussed the letter from Mark Every of the Department of Transportation in response to the letter written by Chairman Getman. The letter is in opposition of our request. Chairman Getman said he is not satisfied we are conversing with the correct person. He will confer with Chief Bradshaw to try to obtain a superior contact or maybe take the matter to the governor.

Indemnification

This item was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Medical Officer Vehicle

ACTION: Commissioner Stevens moved to add Medical Officer Vehicle to the Agenda under new business. Commissioner Findlay seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Deputy Chief Falcone presented a memo to the Board requesting the purchase of a vehicle for the Medical Officer position. There is currently \$100,000 allocated in the proposed budget for this purchase. The District has located a vehicle available in July 2023 that meets the criteria. He requested approval to purchase and to allow Chief Bradshaw to execute all documents.

ACTION: Vice Chairman Findlay moved to approve the purchase of the Medical Officer Vehicle not to exceed \$100,000 and to allow the Fire Chief to execute and authorize all contracts. Commissioner Reasoner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Bradshaw reviewed the departmental reports.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Stevens asked if Commissioner Matarese called in to say she would not make it to tonight's meeting. He requested it be recorded she did not give notice.

Commissioner Matarese did not attend the meeting due to a medical emergency.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting date is July 20, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: Commissioner Reasoner moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 pm. Chairman Getman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED 07/20/2023

Chairman Ronald D. Getman