SOUTH KING FIRE & RESCUE

SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS MEETING
Budget Workshop – Public Hearing
Station 68
October 15, 2013

Commissioner Gates called the meeting to order at 0900 hours with Commissioners Fossos, Thompson, Rickert and Freitas present. Board Secretary Lauri Perry recording.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Thompson.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Rickert had no comments.

Commissioner Fossos reported that Chairman Gates is a real asset to this fire department and presented himself very well last night in Des Moines. He also added that he has been to a number of meetings where there is a sign in sheet for everyone to write down their name and email address, he would like to see us have a sign in sheet for anyone that attends the meetings.

Commissioner Freitas noted that he would be curious to hear what our attorney has to say about using a sign in sheet for a public meeting. He asked if the Budget Finance and Audit Committee reviewed the draft budget. Commissioner Gates replied, yes they met and reviewed the budget. Commissioner Freitas also inquired why Commissioners draft budgets have a watermark with their name on it; several other staff personnel added that their name is on their budget. Commissioner Freitas added that if a copy of the budget with his name got out to the public, to maybe a constituent or something what would happen, he would be accountable for this, he understands this, but it almost goes against open government. ***Editor's note: Per the Commissioners Guidelines and Departmental Policies, if a member of the public asks them for a copy of the "draft" budget, they are to refer them to the Public Records Officer. Copies of the budget are always available to the public through a public records request.*** Commissioner Freitas also inquired if the public would have the opportunity to ask questions at the Budget Workshop/Public Hearing? Commissioner Gates replied, Yes, they will have the opportunity to ask questions that is why it is called a Public Hearing. He also asked if Fossos' comments were at a Commissioner debate last night (Note: the comments were made about a candidate forum, not a debate).

Commissioner Thompson had no comments.

Commissioner Gates noted that it is a real pleasure to tell people that we have one of the best fire districts around.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jerry Galland noted, the fire district adopted a budget in October of 2012 which is on the website, he is curious when the Amended budget of April 23, 2013 will this information be updated on the website, without having to put in a public records request. Commissioner Gates replied, we will look into this.

Chief Church reported that he would like to recognize an individual that served our fire district for 35 years of service. He recognized John Ronald for a combined 35 years of volunteer and career staff time with the district.

COMMISSIONER BUDGET WORKSHOP/PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Gates turned the meeting over to Chief Church to present the proposed 2014 budget.

Chief Church thanked the Admin Team and the Budget Finance & Audit Committee. It has been a unique year, this is the first year that the AV's and new construction have gone up in a number of years. Our revenue is up 2.55%.

Chief Church added that he will be asking the Board to approve the budget at the October 29th Regular Board Meeting.

Chief Church began reviewing the Draft 2014 budget:

- Capital Budget includes P/C Workstations (computer work stations) that we have put off for a few years due to the budget and these need to be replaced, the debt service for the property, the previously purchased replacement engines (2) and the previously purchased aerial with a pump, small equipment, misc. annual maintenance and for the replacement and repair of the mansard roofing around station 62. Small Equipment capital includes FEMA approved, Incident Command Training and associated digital combustion equipment, necessary PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) replacement, replacement of a Port-A-Count breathing air testing system, a Camel Lifting Device for station 64 and replacement radio dongles for the Hazardous Material Team. Miscellaneous Annual Maintenance includes new carpeting at Stations 61, 62 and 67 and locksmith services and new hardware at Station 66.
- Projected Revenues saw an increase of 2.55% on existing properties.
- Projected Fund Balances.
- Sources of Revenue.
- Uses of Funds.
- Commissioners line items increased by 8.8% due to their meeting increase from $104 to $114 per meeting as established by the Washington State Commission on Salaries. Commissioner Freitas noted that he would like to see the department rejoin the WFCA. The other four (4) Commissioners spoke in opposition of joining the WFCA.
- Audit line item has been increased due to a single audit that we will have due to the FEMA Grant.
- General line items have increased 4.5%.
- Administration line items have increased 2%.
- Operations have increased 2.7%.
- EMS has seen an increase of 9.1%.

At 1012 the meeting recessed until 1020 hours.

At 1020 hours the meeting reconvened.

Chief Church continued going through the budget.

- Rescue Team budget has increased 9.2%.
- Marine Team budget has increased 3.3%.
- Haz-Mat Team budget has increased by 9.9%.
- Health & Safety budget is reduced 6.1%.
- Prevention/Investigation budget has seen an increase of 1.8%.

- Public Education budget has increased by 14.5% with the possibility of having a uniformed person serve as the Community Affairs Officer, a new position, pending passage of this budget and an agreement with Labor.
- Training budget has increased by 1.7%.
- Facilities budget has increased 4.3%.
- Fleet budget has increased by 7.7%, due to our apparatus getting older and costing more in maintenance
- Information Technologies budget has increased 8.2% due to hiring a data person part time.
- Employee Health Benefits budget has increased 11.8%

The only citizen comment was by Mr. Galland who noted a typo on page 2 (a percentage mark instead of a dollar sign was corrected).

Meeting adjourned at 1126 hours.

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CHAIR/COMMISSIONER VICE CHAIR/COMMISSIONER

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COMMISSIONER COMMISSIONER

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COMMISSIONER

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BOARD SECRETARY