



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

October 13, 2009

MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 9, 2009 FIRST PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Schweers opened the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

Silent Prayer

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Messina, Commissioner Sassano, Commissioner Schweers and Commissioner Akins were present. Commissioner Levy was absent.

Commissioner Akins submitted her resignation to the Board effective immediately. Commissioner Akins noted that she no longer resides within the District and therefore can no longer serve as a Commissioner.

BUDGET REVIEW BY STAFF

Chief Vanderbrook showed a video presentation about EFR and the budget preparation process.

DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD ON THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND BUDGET

Not at this time. Commissioner Schweers moved to public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND BUDGET ONLY

Amiel Villani of 17600 Corkscrew, Estero, Florida expressed his concerns about raising the millage rate.

Phil Douglas of 10304 Cape Roman Road, Estero, Florida commended the staff and the union for their efforts in preparing the budget and then read his written remarks expressing his concerns about raising the millage rate, a copy of which is attached.

Nick Batos of 9165 Hollow Pine Drive, Estero, Florida commended the staff and the union for their efforts in preparing the budget and expressed his concerns about raising the millage rate.

Bill Parrish of 22504 Baycrest Ridge Dr., Bonita Springs, Florida commended the staff and the union for their efforts in preparing the budget and expressed his concerns about raising the millage rate.

Don Eslisk of 23650 Via Veneto #604, Bonita Springs, Florida commended the staff and the union for their efforts in preparing the budget and expressed his concerns about raising the millage rate.

Richard Cavuto of 10097 Magnolia Bend, Bonita Springs, Florida commended the staff and the union for their efforts in preparing the budget and expressed his concerns about raising the millage rate.

Sean James of 9830 Bay Meadow, Bonita Springs, Florida commended the staff and the union for their efforts in preparing the budget and expressed his concerns about raising the millage rate.

Jeff Maas of 20468 Ardaro Lana, Estero, Florida commended the staff and the union for their efforts in preparing the budget and expressed his concerns about raising the millage rate.

Grant Schwalbe, DVP District 11, of 17510 Stepping Stone Drive, Fort Myers, Florida provided comments regarding the millage rate and the budget.

Chief Vanderbrook addressed some of the questions raised during the public comment.

DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD ON THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE AND BUDGET

Brief comments were made by Commissioner Schweers, Commissioner Sassano and Commissioner Messana.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM 1 – ADOPT TENTATIVE MILLAGE RATE OF 2.00

Commissioner Messana made a motion to set the tentative millage rate at 2.00. Commissioner Sassano seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM 2 – ADOPT TENTATIVE BUDGET OF \$20,669,969

Commissioner Messana made a motion to adopt the tentative budget of \$20,669,969. Commissioner Sassano seconded, all were in favor, motion carried.

RECOMPUTE THE PROPOSED MILLAGE RATE

Commissioner Schweers read the information and instructions formally recomputing the proposed millage rate.

SET, DATE, TIME AND PLACE FOR FINAL HEARING

Consensus among the Board to hold the Final Hearing on Monday, September 14, 2009 at 5:01 p.m. at the Estero Fire Rescue Administrative Complex, 21500 Three Oaks Parkway, Estero, Florida 33928. Chief Vanderbrook noted that the budget advertisement would run on Friday, September 11, 2009 in the Naples Daily News.

Commissioner Schweers called for a motion to adjourn the public hearing portion of the meeting. Motion was made by Commissioner Messana, seconded by Commissioner Sassano.

Commissioner Schweers called for a recess 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle M. Sassano, Secretary