

Fire Commissioner Meeting February 18, 2010

Immokalee Fire Control Board Regular Monthly Meeting February 18, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Matthews at 7:00 PM. Present were Chairman Matthews, Commissioners Terrie Aviles, Pam Brown, Albert Lee and Edward Olesky, Fire Chief Scott Birge, Fire Marshal Leo Rodgers, Ann Carver, Chelsea Crain, Union President Tom Cunningham, firefighters, Auditor Nathan Phillips and members of the public. The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairman Matthews followed by the silent prayer.

These Minutes are a summary of the meeting. Any further information can be obtained by the tape.

Approval of the Agenda: Commissioner Aviles made a motion to approve of the Agenda without any changes. Commissioner Brown seconded this motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval of the January 21, 2010 Minutes: Commissioner Lee made a motion to accept the January 21, 2010 Minutes without any changes. Commissioner Olesky seconded this motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Money Market Account: \$ 1,709,008.96
Impact Fee Account: \$ 1,328,707.58
Cash/Operating Account: \$ 131,897.49

Consent Agenda: Commissioner Olesky made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda without any further questions. Commissioner Aviles seconded this motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

Old Business

- 1. Election of Board Chair Person:** Chairman Matthews made a statement about how he would prefer to see the Chair Person promoted so that everyone has a chance. He stated that it was unfair to Albert Lee because he has been on the Board for a while without the chance of being the Chair Person. Commissioner Olesky made a motion to have Commissioner Brown become the Chair. Commissioner Lee seconded that motion. Chairman Matthews made a motion to have Albert Lee become the Chair. Commissioner Aviles seconded that motion. Commissioner Aviles asked the role of the Chair. Chairman Matthews said that it was no different than being a Commissioner except the Chair leads the meeting. Commissioner Olesky made a motion to close the nominations. Commissioner Aviles seconded that motion. All ayes. Motion carried. The motion to have Pam Brown become the Chair Person was called into question. Commissioners Olesky and Brown said yes. Commissioners Aviles, Lee and Matthews said no. The motion to have Albert Lee become the Chair Person was called into question. Commissioners Olesky and Brown said no. Commissioners Aviles, Lee and Matthews said yes. Motion carried. Commissioner Lee accepted the role of Chairman. Chief Birge gave a summary of the last meeting where Commissioner Aviles was elected as Vice Chair and Commissioner Olesky was

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elected as Secretary/Treasurer. Chairman Lee asked Commissioner Aviles if she would accept the responsibility of Vice Chair. Commissioner Aviles accepted the position.

2. **Update on the status of the Union Contract Negotiations:** Chief Birge stated that after the last meeting he had been given some direction and a proposal had been given to the Union. He also informed the Board that he has had two meetings with the Union that had been very productive.

3. **Update on Station 31:** Chief Birge informed the Board that according to last meeting there has only been a verbal agreement. As the Board suggested there has been no progression on the changes to the building. He stated that he has had discussions with Mr. Treadwell with the Colliers and also with Attorney Ken Thompson to come up with a draft agreement. Commissioner Brown asked if the Attorney had indication of a time the agreement would be finished. Chief Birge informed her that Ken Thompson said possibly the following day. Commissioner Aviles asked if this agreement would be coming to the Board before it goes to the Colliers. Chief Birge stated that Commissioner Olesky was appointed to handle the negotiations between the Colliers and the agreement would have to, at a minimum, go to him unless the Board directed otherwise.

New Business

1. **2008/2009 Audit Presentation:** Auditor Nathan Phillips explained to the Board the 2008/2009 Auditor's Report Draft. He informed the Board that the only thing he is waiting for is the letters from the Attorneys. Commissioner Matthews made a motion to accept the 2008/2009 Auditor's Report. Commissioner Brown seconded this motion. All ayes. Motion carried.

2. **Mechanic Agreement with Big Corkscrew Island Fire District:** Chief Birge said that he was approached by Chief Greenburg with a new Mechanic agreement. The agreement stated that if it a repair that requires certification then the maintenance would stay at the same rate of \$55/hr. If the maintenance does not require certification the rate drops down to \$35/hr. Commissioner Matthews made a motion to accept the agreement. Commissioner Aviles seconded this motion. Commissioner Olesky asked if Chief Birge had any problems with the agreement. Chief Birge said he did not see any problems and he believes the maintenance agreement with Big Corkscrew Island Fire District is working out well. Commissioner Matthews asked if Firehouse has the ability to track the maintenance. Chief Birge informed him that it does and that they will soon be using it. Commissioner Matthews stated that he would like to see some prices from local mechanics to compare to the agreement. Chairman Lee called the motion into question. All ayes. Motion carried.

3. **FASD Legislative Day 2010:** Chief Birge stated that this was for their information and would like to know if anyone would like to attend so the reservations can be made. No Commissioners stated that they would be going.

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- 4. Approval of Deputy Chief of Operations Position and approval to fill the position:** Chief Birge stated to the Board that a Deputy Chief would be a more appropriate title for the operations position rather than an Assistant Chief. The Deputy Chief is needed to make sure that the day to day operations of the department have appropriate attention. The position of Assistant Chief would be suspended until the Department grows to need that position and the budget supports the position. Commissioner Matthews had a concern about hiring a Deputy Chief when there is already a position for Assistant Chief. Chairman Matthews also asked about the three firefighters that were supposed to be hired in this year's budget. Chief Birge informed him that the hiring of three new firefighters is still in effect and also the hiring of a Deputy Chief rather than an Assistant Chief saves the Department around \$10,000. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the position and hiring of Deputy Chief. Commissioner Aviles seconded this motion. Commissioners Aviles, Brown and Olesky voted yes. Commissioners Lee and Matthews voted no.
- 5. Topics Initiated by Commissioners:** Commissioner Matthews made a motion that each month the Board be presented with a list of deficiencies from the Auditor's Report that the Department is working on fixing. Chairman Lee seconded this motion. Commissioners Aviles, Brown, Lee and Matthews voted yes. Commissioner Olesky voted no. Motion carried.
- 6. Public Comment:** There was no public comment made at this time.
- 7. Adjourn:** Commissioner Matthews made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 PM. Commissioner Aviles seconded that motion. All ayes. Motion carried.