

**Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District**  
**Minutes for Continuance of Tentative Budget Hearing Meeting**  
**September 18, 2020**  
***Subject to Board Approval***

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Player called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

**Invocation:** Mr. Pritt led everyone in the invocation.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Commissioner Player led everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

**Roll Call:** Commissioner Cammick, Dreikorn, Player, Valcarcel, and Price were present. Chief Mickuleit, Deputy Chief Brant, Assistant Chief Davis, Captain Barr, Firefighter Darna, Engineer McQuade, Firefighter Barron, Mr. Pritt (Attorney), Renee Lynch-Wishin (Financial Advisor), and Administrative Assistant Miles were present.

**Guest:** Gordon Short, Darlene Soler, and an unidentified guest.

**Setting of Agenda:** Commissioner Dreikorn moved to accept agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cammick. Motion passed unanimously.

**Adopt a Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Budget:**

1. Power Point Presentation on Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Budget:

Presented by Renee Lynch-Wishin (copy on file). Pursuant to Florida Law the following issues were discussed in the power point:

- a. Announcement of the Proposed Millage Rate, which is currently 3.6000
- b. Announcement of the percentage increase over the rollback rate, however the current proposed Millage is 0.24% less than the rolled-back rate and is therefore considered a tax decrease.

Additionally Renee went through the budget line by line explaining the increases and decreases throughout. The floor was opened up to the Board for any questions or concerns that they had about the proposed budget. Mr. Dreikorn asked about sick and vacation pay-outs and wondered if we should be encouraging our guys to take a much vacation as allotted so that we are not paying all of this out every year. Captain Barr noted that paying everyone out their unused vacation is actually less expensive to the district in the instance that the vacation would have to be filled with overtime. Commissioner Cammick asked about the 17% threshold that is required for the first 2 months of the next fiscal year. Renee clarified that the District is actually at about 32% with the current proposed budget. The floor was opened to the public for comments and questions from the public.

2. Public Input on Proposed Tentative Millage Rate and Tentative Budget:

Mr. Gordon stood, he initially asked Renee if the leases were considered capital or operating and she clarified that they are technically capital. His concerns that he voiced were with personnel costs, and that if real cuts are going to be made, personnel and benefits being the largest portion of the budget are where they are going to need to be. Additionally he voiced his concerns with the Chief's contract that were discussed at prior meetings.

3. Adopt Tentative Millage Rate – Resolution 2020-091820 (1)

Commissioner Valcarcel feels that the millage could be reduced further and believes that even at 3.5000 the District would be able to maintain its health. Commissioner Dreikorn agrees that being that personnel is the largest piece of the budget that it needs to be looked at. However that at this

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point in the budget process, it is not time to be making significant cuts. **Commissioner Cammick agrees with Commissioner Valcarcel in that we should be able to reduce the millage further and moves that it be set at 3.55, Commissioner Valcarcel seconds.** There is further discussion between the board members about when the proper time is to reduce the millage, since if it is reduced tonight it cannot be increased at the final budget hearing. Commissioner Player and Price agree with Mr. Dreikorn that further information needs to be provided as to where the decrease in millage will come from and what it will do to our bottom line. **Commissioner Valcarcel resends her 2<sup>nd</sup> and Commissioner Cammick resends his motion.**

**Commissioner Player reads RESOLUTION No. 2020-091820 (1) A RESOLUTION OF THE MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR LEE COUNTY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**Commissioner Cammick makes a motion to accept the resolution as stated, including a 3.6000 millage and a final budget hearing date of September 30, 2020. Motion seconded by Commissioner Dreikorn, unanimously approved, duly adopted at 6:26 pm**

4. Adopt Tentative Budget – Resolution 2020-091820 (2)

**Commissioner Player reads RESOLUTION No. 2020-091820 (2) A RESOLUTION OF THE MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-21 PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. Commissioner Dreikorn moved to adopt Resolution 2020-091820 (2) as presented. Motion seconded by Commissioner Price, unanimously approved. Resolution 2020-091820 (2) duly adopted at 6:29 p.m.**

**Adjournment:**

**Commissioner Dreikorn moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Price. Motion passed unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

*Sarah Miles*  
District Administrative Assistant

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Board Secretary