

Pine Hill Fire District #1
Workshop Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Wakeley at 5:35 P.M. Vice Chairman Wakeley led the salute to the flag and read a statement regarding the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL: Commissioner Hagarty – present, Commissioner Hassett – present, Commissioner Harris (arrived 6:55 p.m.) – present, Commissioner Wakeley – present, Commissioner Waddington – not present.

OTHER OFFICIALS PRESENT: Chief Hunter, Battalion Chief Pizzo

OPEN THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC: Vice Chairman Wakeley asked for a motion to open the floor to the public. A motion to open the floor to the public was made by Commissioner Hagarty and seconded by Commissioner Hassett. All were in favor. Motion passed.

There was no public participation.

CLOSE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC: Vice Chairman Wakeley asked for a motion to close the floor to the public if there were no other questions. There were none. A motion to close the floor to the public was made by Commissioner Hagarty and seconded by Commissioner Hassett. All were in favor. Motion passed.

WORKSHOP: Vice Chairman Wakeley explained that the topics for the workshop will include personnel, equipment and response issues and said that at the last meeting the Chiefs said that they would gather some information and present it tonight. Chief Hunter said that they have some information but not all that they intended to present.

Battalion Chief Pizzo said that the fire department is already doing community events and will continue to do more. He said that they are actually planning to do monthly community events. There will also be a smoke detector program and they will have fire trucks at sporting events. Commissioner Hagarty said that public outreach is a good thing. Commissioner Hassett suggested putting a dummy out in full gear with the price of each item marked. Chief Hunter said that they intend to do that with a live firefighter. There was a discussion.

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Battalion Chief Pizzo said that he would need the full cost of adding a new firefighter to the ranks. Commissioner Hagarty asked Administrator Campanella to provide Battalion Chief Pizzo with the information. Battalion Chief Pizzo said that the Chiefs are looking for the following four things regarding personnel:

1. Hiring more full-time firefighters
2. Promoting the current officers
3. Raising the starting salary for new firefighters
4. Changing the pay scale progression

There was a discussion on these items.

Vice Chairman Wakeley asked the Chiefs if they will finalize their requests in writing and provide it to the commissioners? Battalion Chief Pizzo said yes. Commissioner Hagarty suggested that the Chiefs only ask for what they need and not a wish list. Stick to the necessities.

Commissioner Hassett asked the Chiefs to provide the commissioners with the pay scales from the surrounding fire districts. There was a discussion.

Battalion Chief Pizzo said that he thinks the fire district should make a change on our IT vendor. There was a discussion.

Battalion Chief Pizzo said that he requested funds for new gym equipment at the last meeting and has not received an answer. Commissioner Hagarty asked what the cost would be for the equipment. Battalion Chief Pizzo said that a cable crossover machine would be approximately \$7,000. Battalion Chief Pizzo suggested that the commission pay for the equipment and the Chiefs will give back any funds left over at the end of the year. Chief Hunter said that he is ok with buying it out of his budget but does not want to be blamed if his budget runs out of money before the end of the year. (Commissioner Harris arrived at this point in the meeting 6:55 p.m.) Vice Chairman Wakeley asked Commissioner Harris his thoughts on new gym equipment. Commissioner Harris said that the firefighters work hard and if it keeps firefighters here, he is a yes. Commissioner Hassett suggested waiting for Chairman Waddington to return. Commissioner Hagarty agreed. There was a discussion regarding the budget. Vice Chairman Wakeley suggested waiting a few months before deciding on new gym equipment to see where the budget stands. Vice Chairman Wakeley asked Battalion Chief Pizzo how much money he wanted for gym equipment. Battalion Chief Pizzo said half; \$3500.

Vice Chairman Wakeley asked the Chiefs to explain where we stand with emergency responses. (Solicitor Carlamere entered the meeting at this point, 7:10 p.m.) Chief Hunter said that we have pulled out of responding to incidental calls in 86. Chief Hunter asked Solicitor Carlamere if he

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has heard anything. Solicitor Carlamere said that 86 sent a letter to 85 threatening to file a lawsuit. Solicitor Carlamere explained the shared service agreement and said that he recommended that both sides meet to discuss the issue because a judge usually keeps the current status quo on orders to show cause. This issue was discussed.

Battalion Chief Pizzo said the Chief DiMitri added him to the response list while he will be out for paternity leave.

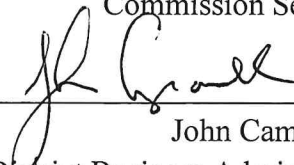
ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chairman Wakeley asked if there were any other issues that needed to be addressed. There were none. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Hassett and seconded by Commissioner Hagarty. All were in favor. Motion passed.

The workshop meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



Christopher Harris

Commission Secretary



John Campanella

Fire District Business Administrator