



City of North Port

4970 CITY HALL BLVD
NORTH PORT, FL 34286

Meeting Minutes Fire Rescue District Governing Body

Thursday, June 23, 2016

6:00 PM

City Commission Chambers

Special Meeting - Districts Not-to-exceed rate Resolutions

NOTE: This is a draft copy of the minutes of the Fire Rescue District Meeting, has not been approved by the Commission and is subject to change.

The Fire Rescue District Governing Body Special Meeting was called to order in the City Commission Chambers at 6:20 p.m. by Vice-Mayor DiFranco.

Present: Vice Mayor DiFranco; Commissioners Cook, Jones and Yates; City Manager Lewis; City Attorney Moriarty; City Clerk Raimbeau; Deputy City Clerk Adkins; and Police Chief Vespia.

Absent: Mayor Moore.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – COMMISSION

A motion was made by Commissioner Jones, seconded by Commissioner Cook, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 4 - Vice-Mayor DiFranco, Commissioner Cook, Commissioner Jones and Commissioner Yates

- A. [16-0309](#)** Resolution No. 2016-R-12 establishing North Port Fire Rescue District Not-to-Exceed Non-Ad Valorem assessment rates for fiscal year 2016-2017.

City Clerk Raimbeau read Resolution No. 2016-R-12 into the record by title only after which City Manager Lewis provided an overview. The proposed not-to-exceed rate is an 1% increase from the established rate for fiscal year 2015-2016. The anticipated assessment revenue is \$8,120,140.00. A review of the rates for Tier 1 (Response Readiness Availability) and Tier 2 (Protection from Loss of Structures) was provided. It was noted that with the proposed increase in the not-to-exceed rate, the average quarter acre lot property assessment would increase by \$1.75 for the year.

Public comment was held from 6:22 p.m. to 6:25 p.m.

Addressing concerns, Finance Director Lear reviewed the rate comparison table noting that the 3% not-to-exceed rate incorrectly charged in fiscal year 2015-2016 was resolved by decreasing the rate to 1% prior to the proposed not-to-exceed increased rate of 1% for fiscal year 2016-2017. The tax assessment will be less than last year due to refunds on the fiscal year 2016-2017 tax bill. The total assessment is \$8,622,353.00 with the net revenue collected at \$8,120,140.00 after the reduction of the 2015-2016 over payments. The proposed increase is what was approved for fiscal year 2015-2016, not what actually went out to the citizens.

A motion was made by Commissioner Yates to approve Resolution No. 2016-R-12

with modifications reflecting a zero increase to the correct rates. The motion failed for lack of second.

Commission Yates stated that (a) she was aware this is a not-to-exceed rate and she is not supporting any increase; (b) in reviewing the fund balances with the proposed budget moving \$650,000.00 from the Fund Balance to a reserve Fund Balance for future replacement of equipment, by September, 2017 there would be approximately 4.8 million dollars in the reserve fund balance equaling 55% of the proposed annual budget; (c) our maximum reserve balance policy is 25%; (d) any future costs and personnel will come from future tax payers.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cook, seconded by Commissioner Jones, to approve Resolution No. 2016-R-12 establishing North Port Fire Rescue District Not-To-Exceed Non-Ad Valorem assessment rates for fiscal year 2016-2017. The motion carried by the following vote with Commissioner Yates dissenting for reasons stated:

Yes: 3 - Vice-Mayor DiFranco, Commissioner Cook and Commissioner Jones

No: 1 - Commissioner Yates

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-Mayor DiFranco adjourned the Fire Rescue District Governing Body Special Meeting at 6:31 p.m.

City of North Port, Florida
As the governing body of the North Port Fire Rescue District

By: _____
Linda M. Yates, Mayor

Attest:

Patsy C. Adkins, MMC, City Clerk

Minutes approved at the Fire Rescue District Governing Body Meeting this ____ day of _____, 2017.