

**Burton Fire District
Commissioners Meeting
January 31st, 2018
Station 891**

PRESENT: Commissioner Gary Bright
Commissioner John Harris
Commissioner Herbert Burnes

Chief Rountree
Deputy Chief Thomas Webb
Lisa Wechsler, CPA, CFE

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Bright @ 18:10.

Commissioner Harris motioned to accept the agenda.
Commissioner Burnes seconded.
Motion approved.

Commissioner Harris motioned to accept the November 1st, 2017 minutes.
Commissioner Burnes seconded.
Motion approved.

Commissioner Harris motioned to accept the October, November & December 2017 Financials.
Commissioner Burnes seconded.
Motion approved.

Fiscal Year 2017 Audit (highlights)

The Fiscal Year 2017 Audit was presented by Lisa Wechsler from Crowley, Wechsler & Associates LLC.

- The district's net position had an overall decrease of \$408,183 due to increase in personnel and the pension liability.
- Assed value increased from \$69,134,330 (FY16) to \$70,865,000 (FY17).
- No new debt was taken out from July 1st, 2016 to June 30th, 2017.
- The General fund decreased by \$153,471. (less than expected)
- Debt service decreased by \$8,488.
- Impact fees increased by \$24,711
- One percent fund increased by \$12,004
- Total of all funds had a decrease of \$125,244.
- The district was under budget by \$103,989.
- As of June 30th, 2017 Beaufort County was holding \$648,750 for the Burton Fire District.
- The FY18 (current year) budget was approved with an operations budget of \$5,554,308 funded with a tax levy of 64.53 mills, expected to collect \$5,112,442 in taxes. The debt service fund budget of \$385,268 will be funded with a tax levy of 5.26 mills, expected to collect \$385,268 in taxes.

Commissioner Burnes motioned to accept the FY2017 Audit.
Commissioner Harris seconded.
Vote was unanimous.
Motion approved.

No Executive session needed

Old Business

Contract with the City of Beaufort and Town of Port Royal –

The contract ended 12/31/17. Attorney Fred Kuhn sent a letter to both agencies stating that in the best interest of the citizens we would continue providing services to the annexed areas in our district as if the contract was still in place, until the statutory plan is in place or another agreement is reached.

The City of Beaufort began manning and operating Station 4 on Robert Smalls Pkwy on 12/31/17.

Since this date new “1st due” response areas were created and we have been operating under the closest station theory and those new response maps.

Maintenance Roof –

The roof on the shop has been repaired.

Old Contract –

Final payments are due March 1st. The appeal for the lawsuit is still at the court of appeals. It will probably be another couple months before we hear any decisions.

Employees –

We have two new hires, Justin Trotter and Michael Simmons who is currently at recruit school.

New Business

None.

Chief's Report

None.

Adjournment

Commissioner Burnes motioned to adjourn.
Commissioner Harris seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 18:47.