

Spring Hill Fire Rescue
Commission Meeting
February 27, 2002
7:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Kanner, Commissioner Hollander, Commissioner Andrews
Commissioner Panozzo, Chief Morrison, and Attorney Salzman

Excused: Commissioner Martin

Call to Order

Chairman Kanner called the Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Invocation

Rev. Clemons gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Kanner led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Chairman Kanner asked if there were any questions regarding the Consent Agenda.

Motion

Commissioner Andrews made a Motion to accept the Consent Agenda

Commissioner Hollander seconded the Motion

Commissioner Andrews asked about the Bill Explanation for week ending 2/15/02, expense for C.E.R.T class/supply, he thought the County was doing the C.E.R.T class?

Chief Morrison stated that the County is doing the class, but they are helping. The County asked them to purchase their medical supplies, and then they will reimburse them.

The Motion carried unanimously (3-0).

Report of Counsel

Attorney Salzman stated that his report of Counsel is under Item 7-Unfinished Business, Fire

Chief's Contract. He asked if the Board would want him to discuss it now or wait until they discuss Unfinished Business?

Chairman Kanner stated now that the subject is being brought up, a letter has been put into public records from Commissioner Martin. He could not be present for the meeting, and asked to table Unfinished Business, Item A-Fire Chief's Contract. Attached is a copy of the letter from Commissioner Martin.

The Board agreed to Table Unfinished Business, Item A - Fire Chief's Contract.

Attorney Salzman stated then he had nothing to report.

Chief's Report

A. Annual Budget

Chief Morrison stated he does not have a copy to give the Board yet, but he is working diligently on that issue. They have a finalized annual budget that they are working with, but they ratified the contract after the annual budget. The contract necessitates the changing of lines inside the budget. It does not change the bottom line of the budget. He is in the process of putting those changes into the budget, and the Board will have it next week.

B. Lobby Remodeling

Chief Morrison stated regarding the paperwork he handed out to the Board, was some bids for the work in the lobby. The first three bids included relocating the large wooden door, and sealing up the counter area. There would be a pass through for paperwork, which would be a 3ft by 3ft space. They also would need a door alarm however, Linus Alarm was the only company that gave them a price. If the Board decides to go with the top items on the list, the safety glass on the bottom of the list would not be an issue. He wanted to know what direction the Board would like to go in with this project.

Chairman Kanner stated how about if they go with 1st Class Glass & Mirror, with the Lexan Glass around the counter top for \$1,650. On the Access Door Control, see what can be done about getting a better price because it is just a buzzer.

Chief Morrison stated that it is a buzzer with four remote buttons. Linus Alarm and Spring Hill Lock & Key are the only Companies in the area that does this, but he can try outside the area for a better price.

The Board and the Chief discussed some option for the Lobby Remodeling issue. The Board liked the idea of the Lexan glass counter top and the buzzer entry.

Chief Morrison stated now that he knows the direction of the Board, at the next meeting he will have some firmer prices for those items.

Attached is a copy of the Bids for Administration Security

C. Vehicle Replacement Program

Chief Morrison stated at the last meeting he discussed the need to replace some vehicles. Calvin Hatcher their Mechanic, and Lt. Carpenter prepared a Vehicle Replacement Program.

This presentation was distributed to the Board for discussion.

Chief Morrison stated the first page of the program gives the equipment they currently have in the fleet and current replacement price. The replacement cost for engine and rescue vehicles include trade in. On page 2 and 3 using the replacement schedule outlined on the 1st page gives the next thirty years how this program will flow. The money involved with having a program such as this is that the Vendor tells them to budget anywhere between 3.5% and 4.0% annual increase on the cost of the vehicles. With increase they can start the program out at \$200,000 a year, and increase it to 3.5% a year. This program will work for the first few years, but it would require that they finance fire engines four years and rescue units three years. He found out some things while putting that program together, like changing the configuration of the rescue units. They were told that the rescue units that they currently have would last 10 years front line with no problem, they are finding out that is not true. He suggested changing Rescue 1 from a front line response vehicle to a back up vehicle. With all four vehicles that they are financing over 10 years they are still baring that burden until February 2004. This program will be tight for the first two years, but it will work.

Commissioner Panozzo arrived at 7:20 p.m.

There was more discussion concerning the vehicle replacement program.

Chairman Kanner asked the Chief what is he requesting at this meeting?

Chief Morrison stated he would like to replace some vehicles in this budget year. Rescue 1, Chief 2 Vehicle, Supply Truck and Hydrant Truck. He would like to tell the Truck Committee to design a Rescue Unit because the Board agreed to purchase one this year. However, we need to get started on Rescue 1.

Chairman Kanner asked if the old Rescue 1 will become a standby unit?

Chief Morrison stated it will go into the reserve, and one of the current reserve units will become a rehab unit and then get rid of the rehab box. The Chief 2 vehicle which is the old Chief 1 vehicle needs to be replaced. That vehicle is a 1995 and has more than 100,000 miles on it. He

would like to replace the Chief 2 vehicle with one similar to an Expedition. The next one would be their Supply vehicle. Their supply man starts his day at Head Quarters and takes the large passenger training van and drives to his supply office and then drops it back off at Head Quarter before he goes home. He would like to purchase for the supply division a small Astro van. Maybe something similar, because he needs a van for weather conditions, and he can leave it at his shop. He does not need something as large as the training van. The last vehicle to be replaced would be the Hydrant pick up truck, that vehicle has more than 120,000 miles on it. He would like to turn that vehicle over to the Fire Police to use as a second vehicle for them. They would purchase a new pick up truck for the hydrant division and that purchase would come out of the hydrant fund.

The Board discussed some issue about the old vehicles.

Chairman Kanner stated he likes the idea, but it would have to be contingent of what the budget is then.

Chief Morrison stated that one thing he is committed to do is a long term strategic plan.

The Board made a consensus to go along with the Vehicle Replacement Program.

Chief Morrison stated he will put together a plan and some prices and come back to the Board.

Chairman Kanner asked Chief Morrison regarding the old Chief 1 vehicle, what is he going to do with it?

Chief Morrison stated that he did not have any plans for that vehicle. With Board approval, since the Board went with the idea of the old hydrant truck being the next Fire Police vehicle, he needs to research how they would move that from one fund to another. However, he is going to surplus the two old Crown Victorian vehicles.

Chairman Kanner stated that possibly Spring Hill will buy it from the Hydrant fund. He did a class at Highpoint Fire Department and the Chief there is driving a 1902 get out and push, that vehicle was horrid. On occasion they do help us out and so do their volunteers. Therefore, he would recommend donating that vehicle to the Highpoint Fire Chief?

Motion

Commissioner Hollander made a Motion to donate the old Chief 1 vehicle to the Highpoint Fire Chief.

Commissioner Andrews seconded the Motion.

The Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Chief Morrison thanked Calvin Hatcher for attending the meeting and answering any questions the Board had. He also thanked Lt. Carpenter for all the time he has put into this project.

C. Finalized Cash Forward for Fiscal Year

Chief Morrison stated regarding this issue, he had handed a note that quickly goes over the carry-forward Fund 116, which they operate out of. As the Board knows, that is a guess estimate at budget time. The final figures are in and they have \$195,000 more than what was budgeted. There are two projects that account for that money, generators and station 3 bay doors. Attached is a copy of this. The County suggested that they hold off until they finalize the carry forward funding. He asked the Board to approve a budget amendment to take the funds for those two projects out of the Reserve Line, and put them into the Capital Construction line to finalize those projects.

Motion

Commissioner Hollander made a Motion to move the money from the Reserve Line into the Capital Construction line.

Commissioner Panozzo seconded the Motion

The Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Commissioner Panozzo asked for a quick run down regarding the Lobby Remodeling, because he wasn't present when they discussed this issue.

Chairman Kanner gave him a quick synopsis of the project.

Chief Morrison stated while they were on the subject, he recommended the money be left in the reserve cash forward line to help fund them for next year.

The Board discussed some concerns regarding the Bay doors and driveway at Station 3.

D. Mutual aid Agreement-Bayonet Point Ambulance

Chief Morrison stated that Bayonet Point currently runs a private ambulance that they use to transport their cardiac cath. patients from other facilities to their facility. Bayonet Point had a Certificate of Need (C.O.N.), in the County, but they let it expire. They reapplied for the certificate and on the certificate they asked to be able to transport from all Hernando County Hospitals. Having discussed with them about concerns about the wording of the C.O.N., the County Commission approved this. It states they can only transport from Oak Hill Hospital to Bayonet Point Hospital. He would like to enter into a Mutual Aid Agreement with that ambulance. When there is a transport from Spring Regional Hospital to Bayonet Point Hospital, and cannot get to that transport, they would have the ability to call Bayonet Point and ask them to

send their ambulance to pick up the patient. This would only be when they determinant a need for this service. He would like to make up a draft for a Mutual Aid Agreement for Counsel to look over with the Board's approval. He is not sure if there is another name for the Mutual Agreement, because they will not be reciprocating this service.

Attorney Salzman stated that it would be to enter an Agreement.

Chairman Kanner stated not to use this Agreement unless they have to.

Chief Morrison stated he cannot see calling the ambulance often, maybe in a rare case they may need this Agreement.

Commissioner Andrews stated they need to make sure it is agreeable with Spring Hill Regional Hospital.

Commissioner Panozzo stated he feels they should look into this issue and have a draft drawn up and see what that looks like first, before they make an Agreement.

Chairman Kanner stated to look into how often in the past year they would have used their service, then come back to the Board for a decision concerning this issue.

The Board agreed regarding this issue.

E. Budgeted Purchase for Air Pack Testing Equipment

Chief Morrison stated they are budgeted this year \$7,200 to buy Air Pack Testing Equipment. MSA Air Packs are sole source and have quoted below \$6,800. He cannot give the exact figure right now, because they have to figure out if the software will be included. He is looking for a motion to purchase the equipment for \$6,800 or less from Ten-8 Equipment.

Motion

Commissioner Andrews made a Motion to purchase the Air Pack Testing Equipment.

Commissioner Hollander seconded the Motion

The Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Chief Morrison stated that the County would like them to start to do their air pack repairs, because they have done it in the past for them. This is the reason why he wants to get testing equipment in place. They are being giving \$100 a piece for the air packs, for trade in value. The County asked if they can buy 12 of their air packs for \$100 a piece.

Chairman Kanner stated that the County is going to be using outdated air packs.

Chief Morrison stated they are not outdated currently. However, because of the legality and liabilities, he and Attorney Salzman have been communicating with some concerns regarding this issue, and he would like to continue doing so. He would like to know how the Board feels about this issue, because it would change the amount on the purchase order for the MSA air pack.

Chairman Kanner asked what about the liability?

Attorney Salzman stated that it is a municipality, just as they have limited liability, so does the County. They would have to show negligent action on their part.

Chairman Kanner asked if they can get a statement from the County?

Attorney Salzman stated that they can indemnify us.

Chairman Kanner asked about the individual firefighters using those air packs?

Attorney Salzman stated that would be an issue for their employees concerning a workers' compensation issue.

Chairman Kanner stated he would want an indemnification. Regarding the repairs on the air [acks, are they covered under their liability?

Attorney Salzman stated that they are covered under the liability code.

Chief Morrison stated he will double check with their insurance company concerning this issue.

F. Update:

Pump Class

Chief Morrison stated that the Pump Class is going well thanks to Commission Andrews. He helped with securing the instructors.

Bayonet Point Hospital C.O.N.

Chief Morrison stated that this was already discussed earlier in the meeting.

Medical Director RFP Committee

Chief Morrison stated the committee met last week and Commission Hollander was at that meeting. They have solicited other RFP to get some ideas from around the state. Just wanted the Board to know that he is moving forward concerning this issue.

Policy and Procedure Meeting

Chief Morrison stated that the committee to help make some suggestions concerning Policy and Procedure met. On the committee is Lt. Ferriero, Captain Rampino, Firefighter Ed Falk and Eugene Mobley. They are all helping and have gone over the first few pages and have some recommendations for the Board to look over.

The Board discussed some issues concerning the few pages on the policy and procedures.

Chief Morrison stated if the Board had any questions, please feel free to ask anyone on the committee. He will continue working on this project.

Unfinished Business

Fire Chief's Contract

Chairman Kanner stated earlier in the meeting they will Table this issue until the next meeting, but there were some questions on the draft. He asked how should they handle this?

Attorney Salzman stated that he spoke to some Commissioners about their concerns. These concerns were things that he can address and have addressed with the Chief's Counsel. He feels they can work out those issues and then put together a draft for the Board to review.

Chairman Kanner stated he would like to go over these issues with Attorney Salzman and Chief Morrison, but he will need the approval from the Board first.

The Board approved that Chairman Kanner meet with Attorney Salzman and Chief Morrison to go over some issues.

New Business

There was nothing for Unfinished Business

Comments of Commission

Commissioner Hollander had nothing to report.

Commissioner Panozzo had nothing to report.

Commissioner Andrews had nothing to report.

Chairman Kanner had nothing to report.

Open Forum

There were no comments

Motion

Commissioner Andrews made a Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Hollander seconded the Motion

The Motion carried unanimously (4-0).

Adjourn

Chairman Kanner adjourned the Commission Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Robert Kanner, Chairman

Joan E. Chiofalo, Board Secretary