

Spring Hill Fire Rescue
Commission Meeting
4/26/06 - 7:00 P.M.

Present: Chairman Panozzo, Commissioner Jacobs, Commissioner Raborn,
Commissioner Biro, Commissioner Perreira, Assistant Chief Davies
Attorney Salzman

Excused: Chief Morrison

Call To Order

Chairman Panozzo called the Commission meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

Invocation

Chairman Panozzo gave the Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Panozzo led the Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Agenda

Chairman Panozzo asked for a motion regarding the Consent Agenda

Motion

Commissioner Jacobs made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Commissioner Biro seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Report of Counsel

Attorney Salzman stated the only report he has is that they will need to bring an item to the next meeting for voting purposes to discuss the Liebman matter. He would request this item be on the next Agenda even though it will be a workshop meeting, because they would like to advertise it for voting purposes.

Commissioner Biro asked Attorney Salzman, if the other matter regarding a communications officer is on for tonight?

Attorney Salzman said, no.

Commissioner Biro asked if the Board has to set up a meeting with this individual?

Attorney Salzman stated, the Assistant Chief and he are handling it and will bring the matter back to the Board when it is more appropriate.

Chiefs' Report

Assistant Chief Davies reported the Chief is not able to attend the meeting and there is nothing to report at this time and they can move on to the next item.

Unfinished Business

A. ST#3 Update

Assistant Chief Davies reported this item was on the County Board's agenda for them to accept the bid from Banded's Construction for the ST#3 project. They did accept the bid with no questions from the County Board to him. Later that afternoon he spoke to Mr. Gant of the County to see what the next step in the process will be. The County will forward to Banded's Construction, copies of the construction related documents that are part of the bid package. He received a letter from the Asst. Purchasing Director today that two copies have already been sent to Banded's Construction along with other information that must be supplied to the County which is insurance and bond related. Banded's Construction has fifteen (15) days to respond to the County. Once the signed contract is received by the County, the Board Chairman will sign off on the documents and then there will be a pre-bid conference with Banded's project manager, Mr. Gant from County Purchasing, and himself (the Asst. Chief). After that, they may proceed with construction.

Commissioner Biro asked the Assistant Chief when will the mobile home be placed on the site?

Assistant Chief Davies stated he contacted CW today to see what their time line is and he does know that the Purchase Order has been issued a couple of weeks ago, however, he has not heard back from them. He is hoping it is on the line being constructed.

He knows the permit process is still moving forward and the department's inspector was looking at the plans today.

B. Ladder Truck Update

Assistant Chief Davies stated, Captain Carpenter, Firefighter Santella and himself went to ST#9 in Tampa to look at a similar vehicle and compare the compartments in the truck, what they were carrying on the truck and how the vehicle is used by the Station. After spending the morning at the station, they met with Mr. Tim Outlaw, this department's sales representative

from Ten-8, Inc. to review the entire list of items on the vehicle. Some they discussed not needing and others that were needed. Some of the items were safety-related. After including the \$3,500 from Ten-8, Inc. for loose equipment they have a Change Order for \$917 that is needed in addition to the original price of the vehicle and the \$3,500 for loose equipment.

Commissioner Raborn asked what the extra funds would cover.

Assistant Chief Davies explained the money is needed for a couple of things. Where the hose tray is located on the front instead of being on the outside of the frame it's been moved between them; they moved the air horns; they changed a couple of lights; they added an EMS compartment to the interior; removed two seats to accommodate the EMS compartment; added a 500 watt light at the tip versus a 12 volt light; added a cord reel to be used in conjunction with the generator; in order to handle some USAR related equipment, they added a storage area for the tripod; there is a 20x10x108 compartment being added to the top of the vehicle to store equipment related to cribbing, jacks and other extrication equipment; they moved one of the roof ladders from the rear of the vehicle up to where it is mounted on the side of the aerial device; and brackets were mounted for a stokes basket. Also, one of the things deleted was a 20lb extinguisher which they have plenty of already.

Assistant Chief Davies explained that a couple of the items may have been able to be accomplished after-the-fact but it was suggested by Mr. Outlaw that since things were being attached to the ladder base, that it would be better that it all be done at the same time the equipment was being built in Wisconsin. The other main change is changing the multi-plexir display in the cab and adding a back-up camera that will also be in the display, similar to the one in Engine 4. Also, taking out two seats included eliminating the side roll curtains, which in itself was a savings of almost \$3,000. Once they added the things they need and deduct the items not needed, it amounts to only a difference of \$917.00. The total of \$4,400 deducting the \$3,500 for loose equipment comes to the \$917.00.

Commissioner Jacobs asked what did they decide regarding the generator?

Assistant Chief Davies reported that he discussed the generator use and what size would be needed with the department's mechanic Calvin Hatcher. Calvin does not think anything more than a 10k generator will be needed. The capability of tying a generator into a facility if needed, would not be possible since the generator is hydraulic and would have to stay on the truck otherwise, they would lose the use of the truck.

Recess

Chairman Panozzo stated the Board needs a recess at this time. The Board took a recess at 7:20 p.m.

Reconvened

Chairman Panozzo reconvened the Commission meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Commissioner Raborn stated he had some concerns on some of the issues regarding the ladder truck which he needed clarification on from the truck committee. After reviewing it with the committee, he feels they can move on.

Assistant Chief Davies asked for a motion approving the change order for the additional \$917.00

Motion

Commissioner Biro made a motion to allow the Assistant Fire Chief to spend \$917.00 on the Change Order discussed. Commissioner Jacobs seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

C. ST#2 Update

Assistant Chief Davies stated at the last meeting the paperwork regarding what they would like to put in the station and specifically two bays versus three new bays. Captain Carpenter assisted in a diagram showing five bays with what equipment the department currently have. Also listed is what will still be kept outside.

Commissioner Raborn pointed out that some are saying bigger cities do not have all the extra bays. What they need to understand is that the bigger cities that some are talking about have an equipment section in their departments where all the extra equipment goes to a facility and when needed is sent to the stations. This department does not have that luxury and the equipment sits outside where it can be vandalize and damaged, etc.

Commissioner Jacobs stated also big cities are locked in and have no choice but to have the equipment sent to a facility. It always costs a tremendous amount more to build later to increase the size for the expansion of equipment, etc. down the road.

Assistant Chief Davies asked for Board approval in order to have Fleischman & Garcia provide some preliminary drawings.

The Board had a consensus for the Assistant Chief to move forward with having drawings showing the station with five bays.

D. Budget Update

Assistant Chief Davies reported that Chief Morrison had given him copies of a preliminary budget that had to be sent into the County which he has given a copy of to the Fire Board. Chief Morrison wants the Board to know, as of now, this is not yet cut in stone.

Assistant Chief Davies stated on Monday, May 1, 2006 Chief Morrison is to attend a budget hearing at the County at 2:30 p.m. and if he is not going to be there, the Assistant Chief will be there.

Commissioner Biro asked when will they have their budget hearings here as far as going over the budget item-by-item?

Assistant Chief Davies stated, he was going to recommend that it probably be put on the next workshop to discuss it. Especially after they have the budget hearing in town at the County level.

Chairman Panozzo asked it be on the agenda.

New Business

A. New Hire Firefighter Due To Military Leave

Assistant Chief Davies reported that he received an email from District Chief Challis stating one of the firefighters on his shift will be deployed by the National Guard. The firefighter gave the date of May 17, 2006 for that deployment. He will be gone for at least a year. He spoke with the individual to confirm the length of time he would be deployed. Therefore, since the individual will be gone for at least a year, the Chief's office would like to make an offer of employment to the next person on the department's hiring list to fill that spot. After that name is contacted, the list will be exhausted.

Assistant Chief Davies stated he knows Chief Morrison had put five (5) new positions in the upcoming budget so this would probably cover one of those positions.

Commissioner Biro stated he did not agree this would cover one of those positions.

Motion

Commissioner Biro made a motion to make an offer of employment to the remaining person on the eligibility list. Commissioner Raborn seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Biro asked when will they be testing for new employees.

Assistant Chief Davies stated, if the budget is approved, he will make sure there is a list in place by October 1, 2006.

Commissioner Raborn asked what is happening with the department's promotional list?

Assistant Chief Davies stated, the memo is out. He has to give a minimum of ninety (90) days and it is scheduled for the week of July 30th. They will have the reference material by Friday.

Comments of Commissioners

Commissioner Raborn thanked everyone for their thoughts and prayers regarding the wife's health. He was a little concerned by comments made by some of the County Commissioners that they would allow firefighters to sit in a station that worst than this department's station3 which he knows is deplorable concerns him. This department recognized the crew at station 3 had health issues and this Board went in and attempted to correct the situation as quickly as possible. Because of bureaucracy it took a while for them to get to the point where they are now. This Board did it the correct way and as quickly as they could and when the roof finally caved in on their efforts, it became an emergency. It wasn't all of a sudden and they did not have their heads stuck in the sand. This Board should not be criticized for attempting to provide a clean environment during.

Commissioner Biro - He is aware when the Chief went to the County to make the presentation, it seemed one of the County Commissioner's was intent on requiring the 120 days bidding process. Also, the Commissioner did not think all the sole sourcing was right. The Commissioner needs to understand, that the trailer the department was getting was not sole sourcing, it was the only source, because there was no other company willing to build the mobile home, meet the specs, etc. The same thing they had mentioned about the ladder truck being sole sourcing. They had several times had vendors out to show and compare trucks. This department went through everything the County asked this Board to do.

Commissioner Jacob - Agreed and thinks what the County and the public needs to remember is that they have a paid fire department but they also have a responsibility to make sure the crew has living conditions that are not detrimental to their health. Should OSHA come in and find they have personnel living in conditions like those at ST#3, they would be held responsible and the only thing acceptable is to take care of the situation.

Commissioner Panozzo - None.

Commissioner Perreira - None.

Open Forum

Commissioner Jacobs stated one of the employees approached him about the portability act that is going through legislature. Because of the situation this employee finds himself in right now, he's had to move to a smaller house from a very plush environment. Now his taxes are greater than what he was paying on his other house and because of all the circumstances going on personally, he is now having trouble with the required taxes on his property. So with

that in mind he (Commissioner Jacob's) called a senator to talk about the portability act. There is going to be commissioned a years study to validate what they are going to do about the portability act and its going to cost about a million dollars. The problem for many people is that if they move to a smaller place, they are paying higher taxes.

Commissioner Raborn asked all their constituents to lobby to lower the price of gas if they want to use their time wisely. That would be more important than worrying about this department.

Chairman Panozzo asked if there was anything else for Open Forum. There was none.

Commissioner Biro asked Assistant Chief Davies to follow-up checking on available property to purchase for a new station while Chief Morrison is on Leave.

Motion

Commissioner Raborn made a motion to adjourn the Commission meeting. Commissioner Biro seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

The Commission meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Gene Panozzo, Chairman

Michele B. Stevens, Recording Secretary

