

**Murrells Inlet – Garden City Fire District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 27, 2021**

**Members in attendance:** Pat Walsh, Kay Benton (by phone), Alison Burns, Beth Ward, John Magann.

**Also in attendance:** Chief Haney, Assistant Chief Kosto.

The meeting was called to order 6:04 p.m.

**Minutes:** Kay Benton made the motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Alison Burns, and the motion carried.

**Financials:** Chief Haney asked the board to increase the budgeted amount for medical supplies expense (\$15,000) and vehicle repairs and maintenance expense (\$25,000). He would like to use impact fees received to cover the vehicle repairs and monies budgeted for firefighter physicals to cover the medical supplies. Beth Ward asked management to bring back a proposal forecasting all line items so the board could review before revising the budget at the next meeting. Ms. Ward received a review of the second quarter from the auditors. There were no findings, or issues that needed to be brought forward.

**Cost Recovery:** The first reading of the cost recovery was advertised in the local paper, and no public comment has been made. Chief Haney distributed information including the resolution discussed in 2015 and fee schedules. He explained that the cost recovery program has been running since 2016, but the resolution cannot be located. Chief Haney stated the cost recovery program allows insurance companies to be billed for costs associated with motor vehicle accidents. A lot of accidents come from motorists who do not pay taxes in the area. The billing would go to insurance companies only and would never bill individuals. Gene Connell asked about billing for structure fires or water rescue. Ms. Ward stated if we are not going after everything we are entitled to and then asking our constituents for a millage increase, we are not being responsible for our resources. It is included in insurance premiums that are being paid already. Innovapad has been billing since 2016. The service has been put out to bid and a quote has been received by Fire Recovery USA. The Chairman asked that language be included to indicate no individual would be charged if there is no insurance coverage.

**Chief's Report:** Chief Haney updated the board on the medic unit remount. A chassis is not available due to circumstances associated with the pandemic. Chief Haney has canceled the current POA. A chassis has been located for approximately \$60,000. Bids from alternate vendors include one for \$106,278, and \$112,132. Chief Haney asked the board permission to order the lesser expensive of the two – an increase of \$21,000 over what was originally budgeted. Beth Ward made the motion to increase the estimated purchase price of the

ambulance remount from \$135,000 to \$168,000. John Magann seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chief Haney asked Assistant Fire Chief Kosto to present to the board the findings from the apparatus replacement committee. The committee recommends the replacement of two apparatus by purchasing a 108-foot aerial truck for \$1,399,638 and a pumper truck for \$771,900. Pat Walsh spoke about training and staffing needs associated with a ladder truck company. Ms. Ward said we have an operating decision – one that has dollars that have to be funded every year, and we have a capital decision. This needs to be presented in one package: one that comes with a recommendation and contains the full impact of what we’re proposing as a board, so the community sees what needs to be paid for.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Executive Session:** John Magann made the motion to recede into executive session. The motion was seconded by Alison Burns and the motion carried. Alison Burns made the motion to return to the regular meeting. Pat Walsh seconded the motion and the motion carried. Chairman Connell announced no votes were made during executive session.

Next regular meeting October 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

John Magann made the motion to adjourn. Beth Ward seconded the motion and the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Approved on 10/25, 2021

