

East Greenwich Fire District
284 Main Street
East Greenwich, Rhode Island 02818
Telephone: 401-886-8686 or Fax: 401-886-8692

Date: May 23, 2013

1. The regular and pre-budget meeting of the East Greenwich Fire District was called to order on May 23, 2013 at 7:00p.m., by William Daly, Chairman.

a. Chief Henrikson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

2. Members Present

- a. William Daly, Chairman**
- b. Stephen Bartlett, Vice Chairman**
- c. Mark W. Gee, Commissioner**
- d. Mark Schwager, Commissioner**
- e. Philip Higgins, Commissioner - Absent**

Other Members Present

- a. Peter Henrikson, Chief**
- b. Russell McGillivray, Deputy Chief**
- c. Kevin Hundley, Treasurer**

- d. Scott Spear, Legal Counsel - Absent**
- e. Janice J. Peixinho, Fire District Clerk**

Also Present: William Sequino, Town Manager and Bradford Bishop Town Councilor

3. Commissioner Daly determined a quorum on record.

4. Public Comment - none

5. Consent Agenda

a. Treasurer's Report – There were no changes from the previous presentation.

b. Chief's Report - none

6. New Business

a. Pre-Budget Public hearing for f/y 2013-2014

Treasurer Hundley presented the pre-budget with the additions and deletions from the previous pre-budget meeting. He stated that he had added \$100,000.00 into the OPEB account, and additional \$5,000.00 for medical exams. The overtime account was discussed at length regarding increasing the overtime account by \$100,000.00. The total amount in the f/y budget is \$19,800.00. The Chief and Commissioners would not appropriate any increase to this account. Councilor Bishop and Manager Sequino suggested that the

Commissioners add an additional \$100,000.00 to the line item for overtime but the Commissioners declined because they know that the additional funds were not needed. Councilor Bishop stated he did not want to influence the Commissioners to add to the account but he was not comfortable with just the \$19,800.00. Treasurer Hundley stated that if the line item was increase by \$100,000.00 in would increase the tax rate by eleven (11) cents for the current \$2.10. Commissioner Schwager stated that he was not comfortable to change the numbers “on the fly” at this time. Commissioner Daly again explained why the previous year for overtime was as high as it was and does not believe it would happen again in the upcoming fiscal year. The Chief stated that there were several factors that caused the increase and they were; training, injuries, retirements and a couple of firefighters resigned to go to other departments. Commissioner Schwager stated that the process for the Town was unique and would be a complicated one but the Town could get the information from the District’s Treasurer. The Commissioners talked about the OPEB, COLA settlements, equipment maintenance and portion of the ½ of the \$30,000.00 for the maintenance personnel hired by the Town. The additional changes were for fuel \$59,000.00, and dispatch \$133,000.00. The District has appropriated \$10,000.00 for the legal account. Councilor Bishop stated that when the Fire District’s budget is rolled into the Town budget, the Town would not treat the accounts the way the Fire District has allocated the money. The Commissioners and Councilor continued to have a brief discussion regarding the budget and how the Town would handle the

District's accounts. There were no other additions or deletions.

b. Approval of Warrant items.

- 1. 2nd, payment on the new rescue**
- 2. Refurbish reserve engine 3**
- 3. Repair the apparatus bay floor at Station 1 (one)**
- 4. Refurbish main bathroom at Station 1 (one)**
- 5. Conduct/implement full energy audit of both facilities**
- 6. Engineering services for possible addition to Station 2 (two)**
- 7. Pavement for driveway at Station 2 (two) and training facility**

area

Commissioner Bartlett 1st moved to approve the capital items as presented by the Chief 1) 2nd, payment on the new rescue, 2) Refurbish reserve engine 3, 3) Repair the apparatus bay floor at Station 1 (one), 4) Refurbish main bathroom at Station 1 (one), 5) Conduct/implement full energy audit of both facilities, 6)Engineering services for possible addition to Station 2 (two) for a total amount of all items in the amount of \$330,000.00 to be charged to the Apparatus Account and the payment for the driveway at Station 2(two) and training facility area in the amount of \$48,000.00 charged to the Impact Fee Account, Commissioner Schwager 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Schwager – yes, Daly – yes and Bartlett – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion Carried.

c. Approval of the final budget and proposed tax rate for Annual

Meeting.

The Treasurer stated that with the additions and deletions the overall total of changes amounted to 7% or 3.3% for a total of \$5,711,354.00 f/y 2013-2014.

Commissioner Bartlett 1st moved to approve the f/y 2013-2014 budget as presented with the additions and deletions in the amount of \$5,711,354.00 with a 7 cents tax increase from last year being a 3.3% change, Commissioner Gee 2nd, Vote 4-0- Gee-yes, Schwager – yes, Daly – yes and Bartlett – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion Carried.

a. Approve 2012 abatements in the amount of \$1,754.26 & the 2012 addition in the amount of \$436.59

Commissioner Gee 1st moved to approve the abatements of \$1,754.26 and the addition of \$436.59 as presented by the District Clerk, Commissioner Bartlett 2nd, Vote 4-0- Gee-yes, Schwager – yes, Daly – yes and Bartlett – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion Carried.

7. Old Business - none

**8. Minutes of the previous meetings
Approve May 2, 2013 (pre-budget)**

Commissioner Gee 1st moved to approve the minutes of the pre-budget meeting of May 2, 2013 as presented, Commissioner Bartlett 2nd, Vote 4-0, Gee-yes, Schwager – yes, Daly – yes and Bartlett – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion Carried.

9. Public Comment

Commissioner Daly, Bartlett, Schwager and Gee thanked everyone, a pleasure to work with everyone. It was mentioned that in the previous months times became stressful to be a Commissioner but to serve on the board as a Commissioner was a pleasure. Commissioners commented about being front page news and disappointed about the tone the personal attacks to undermine the public confidence in the Commissioners. They wished the Town well.

10. Executive Session - none

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Bartlett 1st moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10p.m., Commissioner Gee 2nd, Vote 4-0- Gee-yes, Schwager – yes, Daly – yes and Bartlett – yes, Unanimously Accepted, motion Carried.

Attest:

A true copy,

Respectfully submitted,

Janice J. Peixinho

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EGF District Clerk