

BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES March 14, 2018

Present:

Board Member: Karen Flenniken
Acting Fire Chief Scott Neal
Assistant Chief: Pat Moore
Fire Marshall: Jim Dykens
Battalion Chief: Craig Stephenson
Administrative Manager: Paula Acker

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Acting Fire Chief Scott Neal. Chief Neal stated this workshop is an informal meeting to go over the time line of the budget process; this is an introductory meeting to bring people into the discussion early in the budget process.

Chief Moore went over the timeline, which is driven by Arizona State Statute which mandates the budget process and must be approved and adopted by the Board at a Public Hearing. He stated that we are hoping to have a budget ready by the end of May.

Chief Moore stated the total net assessed value shows approximately 3.5% increase, however Public Safety Pension Retirement System (PSPRS) will increase approximately 6% in the upcoming fiscal year. He stated we would start looking at operation budgeting items, the strategic plan, and creating a capital line item. He stated there would be a separate line item for bond expenditures within the budget and would have a minimal impact on the budget. Chief Moore also stated there would be discussion on budgeting specialty-training programs also.

Battalion Chief Stephenson stated the budget process would likely change with new leadership and he would like to see more input from operations, and personnel.

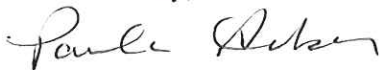
Chief Moore continued with the discussion of setting money aside for future capital needs, stating this should be a priority setting up the budget.

Chief Dykens stated he would like to have each department head that is in charge of their own line items have the flexibility and authority to spend what was budgeted, and approved by the Fire Board, without going through another approval process for allocation. Chief Moore stated that would not pose a problem unless uncollected taxes held up the purchasing during certain times of the year.

Chief Neal stated that this budget process would be open to all within the department for transparency and keeping everyone informed. He stated the presentations might be different this year with a simple realistic dialog, focusing on hard and soft costs and revenue.

With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Recorded by,



Paula Acker
Administrative Manager

Approved by,



David C. Cummings, Chairman
Fire District Board



Charles Moore, Board Clerk
Fire District Board