

Minutes of the Special Council Meeting called to order by Mayor Rodriguez on January 30, 2025 at 5:00pm. Present members Mary Moore, Trent Adams, Sean Roman, and Rachel Teel-Vanderpool; Austin Miller was excused.

Presentation from the fire department:

1. The fire department invited the Mayor and council members to tour the fire trucks, the equipment on/off the trucks, the boat, and the rest of the fire department building.

2. Adam Sowell presented a briefing that provided data for the fire department, the training for firefighters/medical training, the trucks, and the equipment. The charts provided data on the 501C3 funds for the fire department, showing the years and the amount of money that has been spent from fundraising/donations: 2024 - \$12,000; 2023 - \$30,000; 2022 - \$13,405; 2021 - \$20,302, and for the last 39 years the total has been \$336,364. The fire department shared a spreadsheet that showed different communities and what (if any) they paid firefighters for training and for calls, along with the population of the city. The fire department provided data that showed if the firefighters would get paid for training/calls, broken down by training hours, medical/other fire assistant calls, how long the firefighters are on calls, and the number of firefighters, which was an estimated \$33,164.

Mayor Rodriguez stated that the council is going to have to make some hard decisions on the budget, since money is tight. There was discussion on charging for services (boaters that run out of gas, residents who burn items they shouldn't, accidents, since the insurance would pay for it). Mayor Rodriguez asked about money from the fundraisers, stating that there was \$4,200 from the rib fest and Chief Anderson stated they made about \$12,000-\$14,000 from the fireman's dance last year. Mayor Rodriguez stated that there were grants that could be submitted for, even if we have to submit for the grants a couple of times.

Chief Anderson asked why the \$32,000 from the sale of the firetruck went back into the general fund and not to the fire department funds. Mayor Rodriguez stated that we will have this on the next city council agenda to discuss.

Chief Anderson also stated they wanted to change the fire department by-laws to remove the requirement to live within the fire district, as there are folks that work at local businesses that are firefighters that could help our fire department during the day. Mayor Rodriguez stated this could be on the agenda for the next council meeting.

Mayor Rodriguez thanked the fire department for the meeting and for all the time they spend for meetings, training, and calls.

Resolutions - 2025-01 Budget Amendment - T. Adams made a motion to approve the resolution, R. Teel-Vanderpool seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn - M. Moore made a motion to adjourn, with T. Adams seconded. Motion carried unanimously.