



## TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP

### MINUTES - MARCH 3, 2015

The Indian Shores Town Council Workshop convened at 2:00 P.M. Those present were: Mayor Lawrence, Vice Mayor Soranno, Councilor Petruccelli, Councilor Schear and Councilor Smith.

Also Present: Bonnie Dhonau, Town Administrator; Walter Pierce, Director of Finance; Elaine Jackson, Town Clerk; Chief Sal D'Angelo, Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue District; Mr. Craig Hare, Director of Pinellas County EMS and Fire Administration; Mayor Bert Adams, Redington Shores; Anne Miller; Janet McKee; Art Newsome; Larry Schear; Matt Carpenter; Christopher Stansel; David Martin; Laura Martin; Ron Dennis; Matt Towson; Heather Burford; and Anne Lindberg, Tampa Bay Times.

#### ITEM # AGENDA ITEM

#### 1.0 Discussion relative to establishing a temporary location at the Municipal Center for Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue District Station #26.

**Chief D'Angelo** stated since taking the position as Chief, he has studied the location of the existing stations and has some concerns, as there is a gap in coverage on Gulf Boulevard. He stated his first job was to look at the deficiencies relative to the operational standards for response times.

**Chief D'Angelo** further stated he met with the City of Seminole and Pinellas County officials, including the Board of County Commissioners, seeking a dialogue regarding the Fitch report dated 2013, which included all of the Redingtons, and presented concerns relative to lack of sufficient coverage for Indian Shores.

Previously, there had been a station in the area, between Stations 27 and 25, but funding was discontinued during the economic downturn. PSFRD wishes to re-establish Station #26 in Indian Shores.

The PSFRD Board voted to move forward and put a temporary unit back in service, with a sunset in December of 2018. Reserves will be used to fund this endeavor, as it is understood how important it is for the area.

James J. Lawrence  
Mayor

Patrick C. Soranno  
Vice Mayor

Michael "Mike" Petruccelli  
Councilor

Diantha Schear  
Councilor

William F. Smith  
Councilor

Bonnie Dhonau  
Town Administrator

Ferry E. Hughes  
Chief of Police

Walter D. Pierce, III  
Director of Finance  
and Personnel

Elaine M. Jackson, MMC  
Town Clerk

Robert J. Metz, Jr.  
Town Attorney

Malcolm Green  
Building Official

**Chief D'Angelo** reviewed detailed maps that presented an analysis of the response times on Gulf Boulevard, confirming a portion of Gulf Boulevard did not meet the four minute standard for basic life support on scene within the District. Establishing a new location within Indian Shores will not only create a new four minute response area, but will enhance the entire support system.

**Chief D'Angelo** reported Station #26 will be back in service with two people on a unit and a full complement pumper with three people. This will be a temporary solution to take care of an immediate need, with a viable permanent solution in the future. Automatic Mutual Aid agreements will be executed with other communities and eventually, Station #27 may be moved northward, at a more advantageous location for response times in Indian Rocks Beach.

**Mayor Lawrence** stated we are paying a lot for these services and we have a responsibility to protect our constituents. Funding was a major issue caused by declining property values; however economic prospects are now positive. Indian Shores residents paid over \$568,000 in 2013 and thus far over \$535,00 in 2014 taxes in EMS millage fees, based on the 0.9158 millage rate.

**Mr. Craig Hare**; Director of Pinellas County EMS and Fire Administration, stated he agreed with everything Chief D'Angelo has stated and that the Fitch study confirmed there is a need for improved coverage in Indian Shores.

**Chief D'Angelo** stated the District is obligated by Charter to provide these services, even if the County cannot fund the service. He further stated he thought this was a perfect solution.

**Town Administrator, Bonnie Dhonau**, reported Staff has reviewed insurances with Florida League of Cities and the Fire District will provide insurance coverage for us. The apparatus was brought to the Town site, where it will be stationed. No space or parking issue arose during that field test.

**Ms. Dhonau** further stated the Marine Patrol assured us Station #26 would not cause a problem with its operation. Contractors have provided an estimate of \$9,285 to remodel the area by installing kitchen equipment and a bunk area, and they will be using the existing shower in the Public Services building.

**Building Official, Malcolm Green**, reported he had inspected the site and the project would not violate zoning, and could be used on a temporary basis, provided dry-flood proofing is installed that will keep water out for a short period of time. No additional electrical amperage is required and there is already water service to the building. There is a paved surface available, but the truck will be parked on the grass.

**Mayor Lawrence** remarked the fire department will be sensitive to our special events, and make the facilities available to us when needed. However, they would also like to be part of the special events.

It was the consensus of Council to move forward with the establishment of temporary Station #26 at the Municipal Center and the Town Clerk was instructed to place this item on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

**Ms. Dhonau** stated she would contact Attorney Metz for drafting of an agreement, once a final approval has been made by Council.

**Mayor Lawrence** thanked the fire department for making a financial commitment and stated the end result will be a positive one for the people of Indian Shores.

The Town Council Workshop adjourned at 2:50 P.M.



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ELAINE JACKSON, MMC  
Town Clerk