

Pace Fire Rescue District
Regular Meeting
January 23, 2023

1. Meeting Called to Order

- a. Commissioner Jonathan Page was absent from the meeting.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Moment of Silence

4. Public Form

- a. Acknowledged – Jeremy Johnston @ 3421 Argyle Drive, Pace, FL
- b. Mr. Johnston concerns are with the growth in Pace how will the fire department keep up? Mr. Johnston has been to a couple of previous meetings. How long before Station 4 will start/finish and manpower? The mileage rate being too low.
- c. Chief Whitfield stated all those questions will be answered during the meeting.
- d. Commissioner Nick Gradia assured Mr. Johnston that the mileage rate had been budgeted into this year's budget. Commissioner Gradia explained what building a new fire station involved.

5. Minutes from the previous meeting

- a. Motion to approve 1st made by Commissioner Bob Jankowski. and 2nd by Commissioner Nick Gradia.
- b. Motion approved.

6. Financial Report (Written report attached)

- a. Motion to approve 1st made by Commissioner Daniel Mills and 2nd by Commissioner Bob Jankowski.
- b. Motion approved.

7. Chief's Report (Written report attached)

- a. Motion to approve 1st made by Commissioner Nick Gradia and 2nd by Commissioner Bob Jankowski.
- b. Motion approved.

8. Advance Life Support License

- a. Chief Whitfield stated the ALS license is due to the state in March, but we've already sent our license to the state.
- b. Commissioner Jankowski asked if we had the ALS stickers on the trucks and Chief Whitfield said, "we have the sticks on all trucks except the Tanker."

9. Station 4 Information

- a. Chief Whitfield is looking into three different options for Station 4. These options are Modular, Prefab, Site Plan. Station 4 is being manned on our "short pay" period. Commissioner Nick Gradia asked if this was overtime pay, and Chief Whitfield said, "yes". Chief Whitfield said the contract with Allentown Fire Department fell through, so we now help them through Mutual Aide Assistance. If we stay with the plan for Station 4 if anything happened to the main building it wouldn't stop the use of the Bay. Therefore, the truck(s) could continue working.
- b. Commissioner Bob Jankowski asked about the building there now, what did it have such as bathrooms, living room, kitchen, etc. Chief Whitfield said there was a refrigerator and a microwave but they have access to Allentown's department. Commissioner Jankowski asked, "what the county would be wanting from us". Chief Whitfield explained we would still have to go through the permits just like any other business.
- c. Chief Whitfield explained the three options he was looking into for Station 4. A single wide portable, prefab, or site plans. Commissioner Daniel Mills asked if we were still "holding" on the site plans and Chief Whitfield said "yes", at least until he can get quotes on the other two options.
- d. Commissioner Nick Gradia had concerns about the durability of a single wide, and prefab compared to a sight-planned building. Chief Whitfield said the prefab buildings are guaranteed for 40-50 years. Chief Whitfield explained what all we would have to do for the prefab buildings starting with pouring the slab, getting the permits, etc. Commissioner Gradia stated our main concern is staffing and building(s); maybe looking into a multiple contract might save us money and time. With that thought we might need to raise the mileage rate next year because of the growth. Commissioner Gradia stated if we got a portable, while the station was being built, we could always move it to another location, which would save money. Commissioner Gradia asked what shift the guys were working at Station 4. Chief Whitfield stated they were working 8-hour shifts, Monday – Friday.
- e. Commissioner Bob Jankowski asked what they could expect from Chief Whitfield at the next meeting. Chief Whitfield said he would present them with a package on the three options.

10. Station 1 Door Security Upgrade

- a. Currently working on getting a new security system at Station 1. The security system in place now is so old you can't find parts.
- b. Commissioner Nick Gradia asked what the cost of a new system was, and Chief Whitfield said approximately \$11,000.

11. L.O.S.T. Funds

- a. The goal is to purchase another apparatus leaving approximately \$200,000 left in the L.O.S.T. account. This would secure the cost now because in two years they should increase by \$50,000; and there will be EPA changes.

12. Addition/Deletions

- a. Commissioner Gradia asked how we were on staffing. Chief Whitfield said "we hired one two weeks ago, another one has a physical scheduled for this Wednesday, we will be doing Lieutenant interviews and going to readvertise for the third Battalion Chief. We are going to attend the Job Fair at Milton High School.

13 Motion to Adjourn

- a. Motion to adjourn 1st made by Commissioner Bob Jankowski and 2nd by Commissioner Daniel Mills.
- b. Meeting adjourned.

Approved this 27th day of February 2023.



Dean Anderson, Chairman