

**Burton Fire District
Commission Meeting - Budget
May 10th, 2023
Station 81 – 1200**

PRESENT: Commissioner Gary Bright	Chief Rountree
Commissioner Madison Chisum	Dep. Chief Webb
Commissioner Herbert Burnes	Asst. Chief Still
Commissioner Stanley Ganshow	Capt. Kenyon

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Bright @ 12:05

Commissioner Ganshow motioned to accept the agenda.
Commissioner Chisum seconded.
Vote unanimous.
Motion approved.

Minutes

Commissioner Burnes motioned to accept the March 29th, 2023 meeting minutes.
Commissioner Chisum seconded.
Vote was unanimous.
Motion approved.

Financials

Commissioner Chisum motioned to table the March & April financials until next meeting.
Commissioner Ganshow seconded.
Vote was unanimous. Motion Approved.

Executive Session

No executive session needed.

FY 2024 Budget

Chief Rountree presented two options for an operating budget as well as a capital improvements budget for FY 23-24. One operating budget includes a 3% cost of living adjustment for all employees. The other budget includes the same 3% COLA plus 3 additional firefighter positions, putting each of the 3 shifts at 17 total firefighters. We have not been able to increase firefighters at the shift level since FY15.

- With the county reassessment the projected mil value for Burton Fire District is estimated to be \$94,066. And a rollback of mils to 67.1 ops and 3.9 debt.
- The budget with the four new full time employees (3FFs and one additional maintenance personnel currently occupying one FF position) and the 3% cola proposed budget would require 69.1 ops and 3.9 mils (an overall decrease of 4.7 mils from FY23).

Operations budget:

Primary line items affected in both proposed budgets:

- Health insurance has an increase scheduled Jan 1st (mid-year).
- Retirement includes a 1% employer rate increase July 1st.
- Fuel and maintenance both saw increases this year so adjustments were made for the upcoming year.
- Workers comp saw a \$50k decrease due to our lowered experience modifier and changes in our policy.

Capital Improvements requested (included in both budgets):

- 200,000 Down payment for E85 (impact fees)
- Recliners for each station (\$22,500) – 25 recliners total
- Dining/meeting tables for each station (\$17,500)
- 2 admin vehicles – Fire Marshal and Fire Chief (\$120k total via a short term note)
- Turnout gear (\$60k)
- 3" fire hose (\$23,000)

Commissioner Ganshow asked about progress on a sign in front of Burton Hill. Chief Rountree stated he is leaning towards a sign like the one that was done at Pinewood with the renovation. Hoping to get it done in the current budget year.

Commissioner Chisum motioned to accept the Budget that includes 3 new shift personnel and a 3% cola. Total ops: \$6,424,526. Total capital: \$443,000 (\$83,000 by taxation).

Commissioner Ganshow seconded.

Vote was unanimous. Motion approved.

Chief Rountree expressed his gratitude and stated he would turn in the proposed budget to county finance tomorrow.

Old Business

Pierce calendar – Eng 81 and/or Eng 85 will be in the Pierce calendar next year. They are scheduled for the photo shoot on the 22nd.

New Business

Personnel – FF Kellermeyer resigned and is going to Daufuskie FD. This is our only position open at this time.

Chief's Report

None

Adjournment

Commissioner Ganshow motioned to adjourn.

Commissioner Burnes seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 13:15.

Next regularly scheduled meeting: July 26th, 2023