Burton Fire District
Commission Meeting
April 29th, 2026
Station 82 – 1200

PRESENT: Commissioner Gary Bright
Commissioner Madison Chisum
Commissioner Herbert Burnes
Commissioner Thomas Peeples
Commissioner Stanley Ganshow

Chief Rountree
Dep. Chief Webb

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Bright @ 12:15

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

Minutes
Commissioner Burnes motioned to accept the April 15th, 2026 minutes.
Commissioner Peeples seconded.
Vote was unanimous.
Motion approved.

Budget FY 27

For fiscal year 2027 our estimated mil value is $111,974. This is an increase from $106,035.

SC Revenue and Fiscal affairs issued a milage increase of 3.33% for Beaufort County.
Chief Rountree was able to prepare one budget option with no tax increase and levying the same milage with the following highlights:

- Includes a 4% adjustment for personnel.
- 55 employees (will evaluate adding a second admin at mid-year)
- This adjustment brings Burton Fire District's recruit base salary to $47,325.
- The overall personnel budget reflects an increase of $421,214.
- Our worker's compensation is unknown at this time. Our broker is trying to find a new company and we are also waiting on a quote from State Accident Fund. Right now our budget is set to $141,925.
- The following utilities show a slight increase for a total of $9,834 overall:
    - Postage
    - Uniforms
    - Liability insurance (estimate of 5%)
    - Dues & subscriptions
- Maintenance reflets an increase of $18,600 due to the following line items:
    - Communications (pagers, batteries etc.)
    - Fire extinguisher maintenance
    - Office equipment maintenance
    - Building maint.
    - Foam

- The Capital improvements budget includes $300,000 in down payments from impact fees and debt service on the two pumpers under contract. (2028 & 2029 Pumpers)
- CI budget also reflects $65,000 for protective gear and $65,000 for a new medical training simulator and medical bag upgrades.
- Total CI budget is $430,000. Paid for with impact fees, debt service fund and federal reimbursement/annexation payments.

The total operations budget presented is $7,736,371 (increase of $439,648)
Total capital budget = $430,000
Grand total of $8,166,371.
Total budget by taxation is $7,736,371 levying 69.1 mils with a $111,974.
At 69.1 mils we are estimated to collect $7,737,403.

Debt service payments for fiscal year total $433,508 levying 3.9 mils.

Commissioner Chisum motioned to accept the budget as presented.
Commissioner Peeples seconded.
Vote was unanimous.
Motion approved.

Chief Rountree will present at the budget workshop on Tuesday, May 5th.

<u>Chief's Report / Other Business</u>

- Alarm System at Station 85 is almost complete.

- 2026 Pumper – We received our VIN yesterday. Chief will meet with the bank and secure a loan.

<u>Adjournment</u>
Commissioner Peeples motioned to adjourn.
Commissioner Burnes seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 12:55

Next meeting – May 27th, 2026