

Matlacha/Pine Island Fire Control District
Final Budget Hearing
September 25, 2024, at 5:01 p.m.
Pine Island Fire Station 1, 7500 Pine Island Rd, Bokeelia

Call to Order: Commissioner Player called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Invocation: Commissioner DeLacey led everyone in the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Player led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Commissioner Player, DeLacey, Hernandez, and Cammick were present.

Commissioner Price is excused.

Chief Mickuleit, Assistant Chief Davis, Assistant Chief Allen, Finance Manager Miles, and Attorney John Miller were present.

Firefighter Vilchez and Engineer Russ were present.

Public: Ed Keiser

Setting of Agenda: Commissioner Hernandez moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion seconded by Commissioner Cammick. Motion passed unanimously.

Public hearing to consider and adopt a Final Millage Rate and Final Budget:

Hear public comment before any vote.

- Power Point presentation on Final Millage Rate and Final Budget:
The Power Point was presented by Finance Manager Miles. Initial discussion as per Florida Law was the announcement of the proposed millage rate, voted on at the July 2024 board meeting. The proposed millage rate is 3.7500 mills, which is 4.17% above the roll back rate of 3.5998 mills and is therefore considered a tax increase. There were no questions from the board regarding the Budget as presented.
- Public comment on Final Millage Rate: None
- Adopt Tentative Millage Rate: **Resolution 2024-011**
Commissioner DeLacey commented that although we have set the tentative millage at 3.75, that was with the understanding that we could lower it at this meeting. She has had a discussion with an older gentleman in her neighborhood that was concerned about the increasing taxes and wanted to open the discussion to the idea of a decrease. The commissioners asked what kind of difference the roll back rate would make to the budget and average household. Finance manager Miles explained that it would be a \$322k decrease in income to the district and less than a \$50 difference to a homeowner with \$250k taxable value. Commissioner Hernandez and Cammick disagree with lowering the millage. Given the significant reduction in taxable value we have received since Hurricane Ian it does not seem wise to pull from our reserves to give a slight break at this time.
Commissioner Player read the resolution in its entirety, including 3.7500 mills, which is 4.17% above the rolled-back rate of 3.5998 mills.
RESOLUTION 2024-013 A RESOLUTION OF THE MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL LEVYING OF AD VALOREM TAXES FOR SAID DISTRICT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
Commissioner Cammick moved to adopt the resolution as presented and read. Motion seconded by Commissioner Hernandez. Motion passed by roll call vote.
- Public comment on Final Budget: None.

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- Adopt Final Budget: **Resolution 2024-014**
Commissioner Player read the resolution in its entirety, including appropriations and revenue estimate for Fiscal year 2024-25 in the amount of \$16,707,375.
A RESOLUTION OF THE MATLACHA/PINE ISLAND FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT OF LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE FINAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25 PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
Commissioner Hernandez moved to adopt the resolution as presented and read. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cammick. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Adjournment:

Commissioner DeLacey moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Commissioner Cammick. Motion passed unanimously.
Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Miles
District Finance Manager

Board Secretary