

MINUTES OF MEETING

ST JOHNS COUNTY CIVIC ASSOCIATION ROUNDTABLE

MEETING; July 9, 2018

TIME; 9:00 AM TO 11:00 AM

Location:

LOCATION; St Augustine Airport Conference Center

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion to approve Bob Olsen, Second Doug Worth

FINANCIAL REPORT

Treasure Report Balance of \$543.43

PROGRAM SPEAKER

Fire Rescue Chief Jeff Prevatt

ST JOHNS COUNTY FIRE RESCUE

&

Jeremy Robshaw

Deputy Chief

Chief Prevatt began his presentation with an overview of the Fire Department. Currently the department has; 17 fire rescue stations, 337 full time employees, 70 seasonal marine rescue employees, 18 suppression apparatus, 12 rescue ambulances, 15 marine rescue resources, 4 special operations 3 command units.

In addition the department is responsible for

•911 Communications •Training •Public Education •Fire Inspections •Fire Investigations •Logistics •EMS Billing.

The types of responses consist of •Fire •Hazardous Materials •Medical •Specialty Rescues •Trauma/MVC •Marine Rescues/Citizen Assists •Automatic/Mutual Aid •Special Events.

The responses are not just to fires, but actually more to health issues, such as heart attacks, injuries due to accidents, etc.

In 2017 there were 48,376 events requiring response.

The Department covers 608 square miles of the County.

• St. Johns County's Fire Rescue Master Plan is designed to construct and staff stations based on:(1)need,(2)population growth, and(3)call volume. • Over the last decade, three new fire stations have been constructed and opened in strategic locations across the County, which include: (1) Murabella, (2) Pine Island, and (3) Nocatee. • In addition, a combined Fire Station 5 and 11, which will also house the Sheriff's Office South Regional Command Center, is currently under construction on U.S.1 South. scheduled to be completed Jan 2019.

Station Location, Population Growth, and Call Volume Increase, has increased the demand for services from the department. Permit issuance by the building department is increasing.

In 2017 3,624 residential permits were issued, in 2018 it appears that number will continue to rise.

The response time to calls required by National Standards (NFPA) - Initial response 4 minutes; full response 8 minutes.

Fire stations will require 12-24 fire fighters depending on the type of occupancy.

The increase in population growth, 98% from 2000 to 2017. Increase in tourist visits, 6,3 million with 3.9 million overnight stays. Increase in traffic, in 2017 there were 592 events requiring a response on US 95 alone, will require more assets to provide service.

The additional need for coverage and ability to respond will require new fire stations to be built in the county. New fire stations are planned in the Northwest region 19, Southwest region 20 and station 7 on St Augustine Beach, which is proposed to be located to the old Mosquito Control property.

The millage rate is set at 1.47 mills for the Fire District. The current funding mechanism and subsequent funding projections cannot support the continued maintenance of existing services particularly the projected growth of Fire Rescue services in underserved areas such as the Northwest or Southwest portions of the county.

Future consideration should be given to finding alternate means of increasing funding or to increasing millage rates to cover the additional funding needed to provide the service required for the county. The Power point presentation is available for viewing on the St Johns County Civic Association Roundtable Website.

In other business;

Doug Worth reported on the progress of proposed solutions to the traffic issues in Ponte Vedra.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am

The next meeting of the roundtable will be Monday, August 13, 2018, with

Guest speaker

Hunter S Conrad

St. Johns County Clerk of Court & Comptroller,

Roundtable monthly meetings begin at 9:00 a.m. in the St. Augustine Airport Conference Center, 4730 Casa Cola Way every second Monday of the month. All meetings are open to the public who are encouraged to attend and participate.

Officers:

Rick Lofgren, President,
Tony Bosco, Vice President
Dennis Frio, Secretary
Mary Saunders, Treasurer

Respectfully submitted; Tony Bosco