

**LEALMAN SPECIAL FIRE CONTROL DISTRICT TASK FORCE
PARK STATION, 5851 PARK BLVD., ROOM 202, PINELLAS PARK
OCTOBER 29, 2007 – 3:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Pinellas Park City Manager, Michael Gustafson (representing Mayor, Bill Mischler) - St. Petersburg First Deputy Mayor, Tish Elston - Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners, Ken Welch – Lealman Special Fire Control District Chairman, Rebecca Harriman

Facilitator: Jon Kieffer, Esquire

Ex Officio Member - Town of Kenneth City Mayor, Muriel Whitman

Absent : Ex Officio Member Seminole Mayor, Jimmie Johnson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Welch called the meeting to order at 3:06 P.M.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Elston led the pledge of allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION was made by City Manager Gustafson and **SECONDED** by Ms. Elston to **APPROVE** the Agenda of October 24, 2007.

Voting Yea: Ms. Tish Elston
Ms. Rebecca Harriman
Mr. Michael Gustafson
Mr. Kenneth Welch

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstaining: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION was made by Ms. Elston and **SECONDED** by City Manager Gustafson to **APPROVE** the Minutes of October 29, 2007.

Voting Yea: Ms. Tish Elston
Ms. Rebecca Harriman
Mr. Michael Gustafson
Mr. Kenneth Welch

Voting Nay: None
Absent: None
Abstaining: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Welch thanked everyone for their hard work during an interesting three month process. There was significant process made in providing the Legislature a way to resolve the issues.

Chairman Welch thanked staff, citizens and Facilitator Kieffer for a job well done.

Facilitator Kieffer thanked Task Force Members and Attorneys for their cooperation and he is sorry the process is at this point without an interlocal agreement. However, he heard there may be some hope and he thinks it would be appropriate for the District and St. Petersburg to explain where they are and how to proceed.

Attorney Mooney stated St. Petersburg Attorney Winn is out of town but the District's Attorney Lyon made a offer late this afternoon that had been discussed by the District's Commission at their last meeting.

Attorney Mooney stated the offer was for three years at the District's rate and a reimbursement rate for the following ten years at St. Petersburg's rate. It was a last minute offer and St. Petersburg has not had time to consider it or speak to their Council about it.

Attorney Mooney stated on behalf of the District she is requesting St. Petersburg consider it. There could be an addendum to the report.

Ms. Elston stated Attorney Mooney just mentioned that to her but Attorney Winn is out of town but they will talk about the offer.

Facilitator Kieffer stated he will be in contact with Ms. Elston.

Facilitator Kieffer stated it would be appropriate to talk about the report and if there is an understanding or agreement then it wouldn't be too difficult to include.

Attorney Swain stated the report will be with the Legislative Delegation (Delegation) in two days.

A. Discussion of Report to Legislative Delegation

Ms. Elston stated her assumption is the Task Force is going to finalize the report today.

Facilitator Kieffer stated if that is everybody's wish, then they don't have a problem.

Chairman Welch stated there could be a letter to update the Delegation if an agreement is accepted.

Chairman Welch asked if the latest offer should be included in the report.

Facilitator Kieffer stated he thought it would be appropriate but it is up to the Task Force.

Chairman Welch read the introduction and there were no comments on Section 1 – Fact Finding, Section 2 – Membership and Section 3 – Process.

Chairman Welch requested comment on Section 4 – Proposed Interlocal Agreement.

Ms. Whitman asked why it is important to put Town of Kenneth City in the agreement when they had no vote and it was between St. Petersburg and Pinellas Park?

Chairman Welch stated the reason Kenneth City was included is to give a total picture of the District and their finances.

Chairman Welch stated Kenneth City Attorney Marino made some changes that were incorporated

Ms. Elston stated the report states St. Petersburg only provided their first millage rate to the District on October 11, 2007. What was actually provided on this date was a detailed budget for the Fire Department for fiscal year 2008. Their millage was discussed for weeks during negotiations. The calculated rate did come out to the 1.7 mills that had been discussed.

Ms. Elston stated the rate was out there earlier, the documentation wasn't.

Chairman Welch asked if Ms. Elston would like to suggest an amendment or change.

Ms. Elston stated she wanted it to be noted in the record, instead of saying current millage rate for Fire Service maybe it should be something to the effect the detailed budget backing of the St. Petersburg's rate was provided on October 11, 2007.

Attorney Mooney stated she doesn't think the District would agree with that.

Ms. Elston stated she does not mind having the date.

Attorney Mooney stated she would suggest it states that it is relevant to note St. Petersburg only provided their fire millage with its detailed budget to the District on October 11, 2007. Up until that point the District was given a variable range it may fall within but it was determined it would be 1.7487 mils.

Ms. Elston stated she is okay with that and would like to take out the word only.

Attorney Mooney stated that is acceptable.

Ms. Elston stated it will read that St. Petersburg provided their fire millage rate with its detailed budget to the District on October 11.

Chairman Welch requested clarification on the last bullet on Page 2. Is it talking about properties that continue to be served after the agreement?

Discussion was held on that language.

There was no comment.

Chairman Welch asked if there were comments on Section 5 – public comment.

Ms. Elston stated after they are finished she would like to make a comment for the record.

Chairman Welch stated in Section 5 there is a change to 236 not 238.

Chairman Welch asked if there were comments on Section 6 – Recommendations.

Chairman Welch asked if there were comments on Section 7 – Attachments.

Attorney Mooney asked if the map of District is the map previously submitted to the Task Force.

Attorney Swain confirmed that was the map being used.

Chairman Welch thanked Attorney Swain for his work on the report.

Attorney Swain asked how the Task Force would like the most recent proposal between St. Petersburg and the District to be included in the report.

Chairman Welch stated it should be included on page three where it talks about offers that have been made and should include this meetings date.

Attorney Mooney stated the offer specifics three years at the District's rate with ten years at the Cities fire millage and the rest of the terms as agreed upon.

Attorney Mooney stated it would variable at St. Petersburg or Districts rate to be adjusted annually

Attorney Swain read the new language back.

Chairman Welch stated that is the repor.t

Ms. Elston stated the report references Joes Creek but at no time during Task Force Meeting discussions did St. Petersburg specifically state they have interest in Joes Creek.

Ms. Elston stated she knows they did hear that from the District and in the past there have been property owners in Joe's Creek coming to them.

Attorney Mooney stated that point is of great concern to the District's Commission in response to St. Petersburg Mayor Baker, who she believes indicated an interest in Joe's Creek.

MOTION was made by Mr. Gustafson and **SECONDED** by Ms. Elston to **APPROVE** the report to be submitted to the Legislative Delegation.

Voting Yea: Ms. Tish Elston
Ms. Rebecca Harriman
Mr. Michael Gustafson
Mr. Kenneth Welch

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Abstaining: None

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Marion Boyle asked what is going to be done to protect her?

Chairman Welch stated the Legislature created this Task Force to deal with a specific issue. If there is concern about annexation then the process coming up between the Pinellas Planning Council and the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners will look at annexation countywide.

Chairman Welch stated this Task Force only had a certain amount of time to address a specific issue and not to change the way annexation happens because they don't have the authority to do that.

Chairman Welch suggested staying involved in the process and being involved in the annexation task force meetings coming up that deal directly with annexation.

Ms. Elston stated Chairman Welch has been very responsive to the District and provided representation to them.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Attorney Denhardt suggested delegating Chairman Welch to sign the minutes of this meeting.

Chairman Welch suggested emailing the minutes out to Task Force Members to obtain approval.

Attorney Denhardt stated that would be fine as long as members don't discuss among themselves.

MOTION was made by Mr. Gustafson and **SECONDED** by Ms. Elston to **APPROVE** the delegation of the authority to sign the minutes to Chairman Welch.

Voting Yea: Ms. Tish Elston
Ms. Rebecca Harriman
Mr. Michael Gustafson
Mr. Kenneth Welch

Voting Nay: None
Absent: None
Abstaining: None

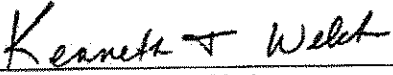
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairman Welch asked if there is any other business for the Task Force.

No further business was presented.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.



Kenneth T. Welch, Chairman
Lealman Special Fire Control District Task Force