

ENDWELL FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL MEETING
September 9, 2014

Members Present:

Francis J. Pandich, Jr., Chairman
George M. Bush, Secretary
Lewis Hoffer
Ronald Materese

Other Present:

Jeffrey Winchell, Chief
Oliver Blaise III, attorney
Alice Fiacco, Administrative Assistant
Anthony Fiacco, Treasurer

Chairman Pandich called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

1. Discussion with attorney about Community Host agreement with Traditions for Casino. He reviewed several similar agreements and there is a wide variety. Some fire departments received trucks or other big ticket items. The way the current agreement with Traditions reads the burden is on us to prove that they caused us additional expense and Traditions determines where they should pay or not.

Traditions announced that they are applying for exemption from taxes. This means that we could get no additional tax money for many years if the casino is built. What about existing property? If they receive exemption will we lose the tax they currently pay?

Do we have a say about whether we get PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) money or not if they make a deal with the IDA? No, the Town of Union and the IDA decide. We can let them know we want PILOT money if they get an exemption, but the final decision is up to them.

We should put something in the Community Host Agreement saying that if we don't get tax money we want PILOT paid instead. We need to meet with Mr. Walsh to see what we can negotiate. The way the agreement reads now it could be difficult for us to get anything if there is a great impact on the fire district. Board members felt that as long as Traditions pays their taxes to the fire district we would be satisfied with that agreement.

We will send a letter to Mr. Walsh requesting a meeting to discuss the Community Host Agreement.

2. Discussion of purchasing our new vehicles by "piggybacking" on other municipal agreements. Attorney Blaise said he would like to see the information and review before we commit. This is being done by many municipalities but we need to insure that the agreement we are "piggybacking" on meets the state's standards.
3. Chief mentioned about selling helmets that are non-compliant but that we can sell for sale outside the county. Attorney asked that he review the waiver they provide so he can be sure we are protected from any future liability.

Motion by Member Hoffer, second by Member Materese Adjourn at 7:50 pm. All aye; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

George M. Bush
Secretary