

## AGENDA

### LOVELAND FIRE AND RESCUE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 – 5:30 p.m.

Fire Station 6

Community Room

4325 McWhinney Blvd., Loveland, CO. 80537

#### **Attendance:**

Jon Smela

Bill Tillman

Dave Adams

Elton Bingham

Paul Pfeiffer

Bob Boggio

Leo Wotan

Mayor Cecil Gutierrez

Andy Anderson

Chiefs Miller, Sparks, Ward, Cerovski

Renee Wheeler

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM.

#### **1. Approval of meeting minutes (3-11-15)**

**Chair Smela**

Time: 2 minutes

Bob Boggio moved to approve the minutes as written; Bill Tillman seconded the motion; and the minutes were unanimously approved by the commission.

Approval was granted to add Chief Miller's presentation on the 3 E's Tour and the 2014 Annual Report after the Rural District Board Update.

#### **2. City Council updates**

**Mayor Gutierrez**

Time: 5 minutes

Goal: Review topics specific or related to LFRA

The Mayor provided an update on the City Council discussions related to the: potential elimination of sales tax on food for home consumption and the corresponding budget reduction strategies that may be necessary, approval of the re-appropriation of 2014 dollars to complete 2014 projects and address issues that have arisen since the 2015 budgets were approved, and the capital expansion fee methodology change considerations.

Sales Tax on Food for Home Consumption and Budget Reduction Strategies:

On March 24, 2015 the City Council approved on first reading an ordinance that eliminated the sales tax on food for home consumption (food tax) over three years at a rate of 1% reduction a year. The second reading of the ordinance was considered on April 7, 2015. There was considerable debate on the issue related to whether the issue should be put on the ballot for voter consideration, whether the reduction should be staggered or all at once, the effective date of the reductions, and impact the revenue reduction would have on services. There was a concern that there hasn't been enough time to evaluate the impact on the services provided. As a result of the City Council discussion, the Mayor indicated the

second reading was deferred to May 19, 2015 to allow staff time to identify the budgetary impact of eliminating \$6.3 million of revenue in the general fund and to get boards and commissions feedback on the proposed impact. LFRA staff will present the proposed reductions specific to the fire rescue operating budget to this commission at the May meeting. The Mayor suggested that the City Manager has provided conceptual direction for the solution. They are cautious about using the general fund accumulated fund balance because that is one time source of money and the reductions impact all future year budgets. Departments have been asked to consider both a one half a percent and one percent reduction strategy. For LFRA, a one half percent reduction would be roughly \$50,000 and a one percent reduction would be \$100,000.

Chairman Smela suggested that the staff and City Council refer back to the information gathered during the Financial Sustainability Strategy Development Process to identify priorities from the citizen's perspective based on the extensive citizen involvement hosted by the Citizen Finance Advisory Commission in 2011.

#### 2015 Re-appropriation of Budget Remaining in 2014:

The LFRA budget re-appropriation of roughly \$511,000 was approved by City Council at the March 17, 2015 meeting. The City's contribution to that re-appropriation (82% of \$511,000) was included and unanimously approved in a City re-appropriation ordinance on first reading at the April 7 City Council meeting. The second reading will appear on the City Council meeting consent agenda April 21, 2015.

#### Capital Expansion Fee Methodology Change:

Elton Bingham asked the Mayor for a status on the City Council consideration of the capital expansion fee calculation methodology change. The Mayor indicated that the consideration has been deferred but will still be considered at a future meeting. He did not have the specific date of that meeting at this time.

### **3. Chief updates**

**Chief Miller**

Time: 5 minutes

Goal: Any questions for the Chief's monthly report

Chief Miller's updates included a request for a May joint meeting with the Loveland Rural Fire Protection Board, additional City Council meeting updates regarding the change in responsibility for hearing fire code appeals and dissolving the FRAC as a City commission so that it could be reappointed as a LFRA Board commission, ISO ratings, and the monthly report.

#### Joint Meeting Proposal for May:

Chief Miller indicated that there was an interest in having a joint meeting between the Fire Rescue Advisory Commission and the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District Board on May 13, 2015 to give the boards an opportunity to interact and hear the same information related to proposed budget reductions in response to the potential food tax reduction and the development of the Rural District mill levy increase election campaign strategies. The Commission was in favor of the joint meeting. The Operations Division training planned for that meeting will be deferred to the June meeting. It is anticipated that the meeting will be

held at 5:30 PM in the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) conference room on the second floor of Station 1.

Fire Code Appeals and Dissolving the City FRAC to Reappointment Commission as Advisory to the LFRA Board:

Chief Miller also indicated that the City Council on April 7, 2015 within the consent agenda approved changing the responsibility for hearing appeals related to the fire code from the Fire Rescue Advisory Commission to an appeals board comprised of three LFRA Board members. Two of those members are board members from the City and one from the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District. Also within the consent agenda, City Council approved dissolving the City Fire Rescue Advisory Commission so that the commission could be reappointed by the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (LFRA) Board. The Chief commented that a LFRA Advisory Commission Handbook to guide the operation of the commission would need to be created. Staff will bring the elements of the City's Boards and Commission Handbook to the May or June meeting so that FRAC can make recommendations for revisions.

Favorable ISO Ratings Anticipated:

Preliminary, and still unofficial, information has been received regarding the Insurance Services Office (ISO) ratings from the reviewer. He shared that the rating for LFRA will improve significantly. This is expected to result in community savings on insurance premiums. Residential premiums are not expected to change significantly within the City limits but could be reduced for some properties in the canyon. The most significant insurance premium reductions are expected for all commercial properties. The official rating is expected to be received within the next two to three weeks. When Leo Wotan asked what influenced the improvement in the rating, both Chief Miller and Chief Ward identified several factors: new ISO rating schedule, new station, new service/rescue company, additional staffing, and auto aid agreements.

LFRA Monthly Report:

The Chief asked if there were questions about the monthly report, and there were none.

#### **4. Rural District Board updates**

**Andy Anderson**

Time: 5 minutes

Goal: Review highlights from Rural District

Andy Anderson provided an update of the April Loveland Rural Fire Protection District Board meeting, including: a command vehicle (pickup) has been assigned to the Canyon Station 8; Lincoln Hotel sprinkler project is underway; a mill levy strategy is in development for a November 2016 election; and the progress that is being made on the construction of the Canyon Station 9 on Storm Mountain.

Chief Miller made a presentation on the quest for Enduring Greatness at LFRA using information from presentations made to all LFRA personnel; and he also covered the highlights of the 2014 annual report. The presentation is attached.

**5. Engine, Tower and Rescue Tours Inside Fire**

**Chief Ward**

**Station 6**

Time: 45 minutes

Chief Ward introduced Battalion Chief Michael Cerovski, Captain Eric Klaas, Lieutenant Vance Stolz, and Lieutenant RJ Varner. These officers provided the Station 6 tour and provided the overview of the apparatus, equipment and staffing for an engine company, rescue company and a tower company.

**6. Public Comment (if applicable)**

**Citizens**

There was no public comment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

*The City of Loveland is committed to providing an equal opportunity for citizens and does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or gender. The City will make reasonable accommodations for citizens in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at [betty.greenberg@cityofloveland.org](mailto:betty.greenberg@cityofloveland.org) or 970-962-3319.*

*These minutes are prepared and submitted by Renee Wheeler on April 9, 2015 for approval at the May 13, 2015 meeting. rjw*