

## 2008 Lee County Fire Department Budget Interviews for May 13, 2008

### Northview

1. In the line item Workers Compensation, there is \$2,200 budgeted. The Fire Marshal's Office picks up the cost of workers compensation.

A: Northview FD has paid their own workers compensation since the 1<sup>st</sup> Employee was hired since it was cheaper to do it on our own rather than use the County's Workers Compensation. Northview was not included in the Fire Marshal's Workers Compensation budget; either way it is going to come out of the fire tax. It is not a problem for Northview to continue to do Workers Compensation as they have done in the past.

2. There is \$2,500 budgeted in First Responder, please explain what this consist of.

A: This line item is to purchase equipment that EMS does not provide (Stokes Basket, Trauma Bag). This money is not used for supplies that EMS provides. Any money left will be used to purchase small rescue equipment such as window punch for members, windshield saw for truck and other small equipment such as this.

### West Sanford

1. There is a \$5,003 increase in payroll, why?

A: Paid member for 20 hours a week

2. There is a \$600 increase in life& disability insurance, why?

A: Increase in members (5 new)

3. What or who is getting the physical?

A: Hepatitis B shots given to all members by Sanford Medical Group

4. There is a \$1,290 increase in auto insurance, why?

A: Policy increased; Chatham Co. appropriation decreased

5. There is a \$5,739 increase in PPE, why? What specifications are used to purchase gear?

A: Four years since gear was last purchased; replacement needed. Three quotes received for specs.

6. There is a \$2,560 increase in accounting/legal, why?

A: Longtime treasurer retired; new auditor's rates are higher

7. There is a \$590 increase in other supplies, why?

A: Neglected general items discovered around station by paid person that needs attention

8. In service testing there is \$246. Please explain who does the work and what is tested.

A: Fire Marshal's Office performed service testing last year; wasn't sure if they would continue, so money was allocated just in case.

9. There is a \$1,470 increase in fuel, why?

A: West Sanford ran 120 calls last year. The increase is a buffer to counteract any costs that may apply due to the rising costs of fuel.

10. There is \$410 in First Responder, what is this for?

A: To purchase items not supplied by EMS such as child bvm and pads for defibrillators

11. There is a \$2,590 increase in training, why?

A: Set aside for out-of-town classes for members who train on a regular basis for expense coverage.

12. Why did loan principal increase?

A: Due to Chatham County appropriation decrease

13. Why did appropriation from Chatham County decrease?

A: Chatham County's tax rate can't rise above 10¢; therefore had to lower Chatham County rates and raise Lee County rates

14. Please provide a copy of your FY 06/07 Audit.

A: Provided

#### **Northwest Pocket**

1. Please be able to justify in detail the rationale for increasing part time staff.

A: Puts another person at the station during the day therefore increasing response time and addressing safety issue concerns.

2. Please provide a copy of your FY 06/07 Audit.

A: Provided

#### **Tramway**

1. In the line item personnel there is a \$6,500 increase, please be able to give more details.

A: Allows for a COLA raise for FT person; Increase for PT members to bring them up to par with the other departments (from \$10 to \$11)

2. In the line items PPE there is \$10,500, please be able to provide the details along with a copy of the specifications used to purchase gear.

A: Plans are to go with what the Fire Chiefs Council has recommended

3. In the line item Misc. Expense, there is \$20,000. We would like to have a detailed explanation as to what is being purchased and the cost of the items.

A: Items consist of small equipment (ex. air packs, etc.) to equip a 3<sup>rd</sup> engine; maximizing equipment on engine will assist in working towards ISO points

4. In the line item Service Testing there is \$800. Please be able to explain who does the work and what it consist of.

A: Fire Marshal's Office provided the service testing last year. Plan to use the FMO again if the date works out.

5. In First Responder there is \$3,200, please be able to give details as to what this is for.

A: Used to purchase supplies not provided by EMS such as: quick response bags, trauma bags (stored on a couple of trucks) and First Aid Kits. The First Aid Kits are placed on all trucks and have expired; need replacing.

6. Please provide a copy of your FY 06/07 Audit.

A: Provided