

**CITY OF FORT MEADE, FLORIDA  
CITY COMMISSION WORKSHOP  
MAY 9, 2017**

A Workshop of the Fort Meade City Commission was held at 6:00 PM Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at the City Hall Commission Chambers, 8 West Broadway, Fort Meade, Florida.

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Vice Mayor Cochrane.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

|              |                  |         |
|--------------|------------------|---------|
| Mayor        | Barbara Manley   | Absent  |
| Vice Mayor   | Richard Cochrane | Present |
| Commissioner | Robert Elliott   | Present |
| Commissioner | Maurice Nelson   | Present |
| Commissioner | James Watts      | Present |

**Staff Present**

|                       |                |         |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------|
| City Manager          | Fred Hilliard  | Present |
| City Attorney         | Thomas Cloud   | Present |
| Deputy City Clerk     | Melissa Newman | Present |
| Public Works Director | Jackie Cannon  | Present |
| Finance Director      | Breanna Smith  | Present |

**3. DISCUSS FIRE ASSESSMENTS STUDY RESULTS**

Ms. Sandi Walker, Government Services Group, was contracted by the City to conduct a fire assessment study to explore the options of an assessment. A fire assessment is a charge imposed against property to pay for fire services. There are two case law requirements stating that it has to benefit property and is fairly and reasonably apportioned to property.

Ms. Walker developed a historical demand methodology, the most widely developed in Florida, to compare the costs associated with assessment. A fire year budget analyze was prepared with the fees charged by the Property Appraiser and the Tax Collector for the assessment.

Ms. Walker stated that the study showed that 80.3% of fire calls are to single family residents in the City. The maximum rate calculated per year (100% funding) for residents was \$160.00 per single family resident, multi-family \$121.00, commercial \$.07 per square foot, industrial \$.01 per square foot. The study showed options ranging from 20% funding to 100% funding.

There was discussion of initiating the fees for this year by separate billing and then rolling them over to the property taxes as an assessment.

Commissioner Elliott stated he would like to see this started this year and not wait.

Commissioner Cochrane stated he would like to see an offset of the assessment in the utility bill.

City Manager Hilliard asked to Commission to set the next meeting to May 30, 2017 to discuss the fire assessment further with the commission agreeing.

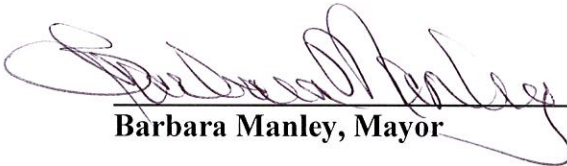
4. **COMMENTS**

None.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Commissioner Nelson, second Commissioner Elliott to adjourn the Workshop of the Fort Meade City Commission on Tuesday, May 9, 2015 at 6:48 P.M.

**Motion carried with all yeas.**

  
**Barbara Manley, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

  
**Melissa Newman, Deputy City Clerk**