

Penny Overstreet

From: Penny Overstreet
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 1:47 PM
To: 'Harriet'
Subject: RE: Lack of communication

Hello,

I will forward your email to the Elected Officials and make it a part of the May 14th agenda packet. As the City Clerk I cannot respond to a majority of your questions, but as the person who drafts the agendas I can respond to your first question. I have a deadline to post the agenda, the day of the deadline is before I leave/close of business the Wednesday the week before the meeting. The City Manager was in and out of the office that day and I needed to review the agenda with him before posting. He reviewed it and told me he had three items to add, 2 items for the Wickline Center and a budget amendment for the fire department. I said okay he said it was okay to post after I added the items. I used the generic budget amendment language to meet the deadline, and followed up with the Finance Director later to ask if that resolution title was okay, she said yes. When the backup material was provided to me (Friday, May 8th, I scanned it into laserfiche where the public could access it through the web site. There was not intent to "hide" any agenda items. I hope this provides explanation for one of your questions, I would hate for my actions to be interpreted to be deceitful, I didn't even know what the budget amendment was for, I just knew which department budget it would be for.

Sincerely,



Penny Overstreet, CMC

City Clerk
City of Flagler Beach
105 S. 2nd Street
Flagler Beach, FL 32136
www.cityofflaglerbeach.com
☎ 386-517-2000 ext. 233
📠 386-517-2008

Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Virtually all written communications to or from State and Local Officials and employees are public records available to the public and media upon request. The City of Flagler Beach's policy does not differentiate between personal and business emails. This means email messages, including your e-mail address and any attachments and information we receive online might be disclosed to any person or media making a public records request. E-mail sent on the City system will be considered public and will only be withheld from disclosure if deemed confidential or exempt pursuant to State Law. If you are an individual whose identifying information is exempt under 119.071, Florida Statutes, please so indicate in your email or other communication. If you have any questions about the Florida public records law refer to Chapter 119 Florida Statutes.

-----Original Message-----

From: Harriet [mailto:pritchardr@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:15 PM
To: Penny Overstreet <POverstreet@CityofFlaglerBeach.com>
Subject: Lack of communication

On Facebook, I saw that the agenda for the next city council meeting includes an item that may address the purchase of a new fire truck for the city. I have several questions.

1. Why does the agenda item not mention the fire truck?
2. What are the justifications for such a purchase?
3. Why was this purchase not a part of the fire department's budget?
4. Has the city made any efforts to communicate about this with the community?
5. Has the city made any efforts to change its communication policies since the swale fiasco?

The way the agenda item is listed appears to be a way of hiding the actual topic from the public.

Harriet and Randy Pritchard
1404 S. Oceanshore Blvd.
Flagler Beach

Sent from my iPad

Penny Overstreet

From: Fran Moore <moorefm41@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:03 PM
To: Fran Moore
Subject: Fwd: F.B. Residents it's time to speak up !

PENNY, HOW ARE YOU? BE SAFE AND HEALTHY- A FEW MOMENTS AGO I FORWARDED THIS EMAIL : SENDING IT ON FOR YOUR INFORMATION. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK- IT IS APPRECIATED BY MANY OF US. TAKE CARE, FRAN

Subject: Fwd: F.B. Residents it's time to speak up !

----- Forwarded message -----

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO RESIDENTS OF FLAGLER BEACH- VERY IMPORTANT- IT'S ONLY MONEY- PLEASE READ THIS- ART WOOSLEY IS A RETIRED FIRE CHIEF FROM MIAMI----- HE KNOWS FACTS - NOT PIPE DREAMS- THANK YOU, FRAN

Date: Mon, May 11, 2020 at 9:03 PM
Subject: F.B. Residents it's time to speak up !
To:

Purchase of yet ANOTHER new fire truck for F.B. ask YOURSELF THIS QUESTION WHY ?

Spoke with two City Commissioners today, one of which said after talking with the chief they are considering the additional truck as a possibility, but will of course consider everything prior to making a final decision ?

I apologize for an earlier e-mail, but I was under the impression at the time that the chief wanted an Engine to replace the monster "QUINT" Ladder truck they purchased in error five years ago.

How WRONG was that, he the chief was in fact requesting another **350 thou.PLUS \$\$\$\$** for yes another NEW fire engine to join the monster \$ 600,000 dollar Quint currently sitting in our fire station, that's **INSANE for sure.**

As it is right now, if I am correct they do not have the adequate personnel to cover the monster Quint, which according to the NFPA it calls for a minimum of FOUR F.F.s to insure the safety of the crew.

Unbelievable and yet this chief now wants two trucks, don't these **people** realize that the new truck if they the commissioners fall for it, which I think they might -- will also require additional personnel, officers etc.etc..

For example the NEW Engine on the "wish list" will require at least **THREE** more F.F.'s per shift to operate, but at what cost ?

SO YOU SEE, INSTEAD OF THE MUCH NEEDED "REVENUE STREAM" WE HAVE BEEN HOPING FOR OVER THE YEARS, WE ARE NOW BEING GIVEN INSTEAD A SIGNIFICANT "SPENDING JUGGERNAUT", (*even while our GREAT nation is attempting to stem a flood of ever growing bad economic news ?*)

At present there appears to be only one option available for our city to salvage at least some money from this continuing financial debacle in order to keep our own dept.

That option is to sell the monster "QUINT" asap, of course it will take a huge loss as most fire dept's now are well aware that they the Quint's are more of a problem than an asset for numerous reasons. Then throw in a couple of other trucks that are sitting over there at the station doing nothing.

Take what money you can get, in order to cut OUR losses and use that money to purchase a Quality Fire Engine, something that should have done five years ago.

IF THIS DOES NOT FLY I AM SORRY TO SAY, MAYBE IT WILL BE TIME TO CONSIDER PUTTING THE DEPT. INTO THE HANDS OF THE COUNTY, IN ORDER TO PASS THE COST ON TO **100,000 PEOPLE INSTEAD OF 4000 PEOPLE.**

IN FACT THE TIME FOR THAT IS LONG **OVERDUE** UNLESS THAT IS, OUR COMMISSION DECIDES IN FAVOR OF THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND, AS WITH SO MANY SMALL FIRE DEPT'S AROUND THE COUNTRY **SOONER OR LATER** THEY ALL GET CONSOLIDATED.

WHY, BECAUSE THEY BECOME FAR TO EXPENSIVE FOR THOSE SMALL CITIES TO MAINTAIN, **AS IN THIS CASE..**

THANK YOU

ARTHUR WOOSLEY

RETIRED CHIEF MIAMI DADE F.D. -.66 FIRE STATIONS.

***** PLEASE PASS THIS IMPORTANT MESSAGE ON **TO ALL CONCERNED RESIDENTS,** AND CONTACT YOUR COMMISSION BY WAY OF THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE via e-mail.

Penny Overstreet

From: sdalley77@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: Fire Truck and budget

Question concerning new fire truck and fire dept. budget?

I know the vote is on the truck but, the overall budget is in question too?

Are there review able quotes on new trucks and all the items that would go along with the purchase? Including warranties?

Why and how has the overall budget gone from \$500,000 to \$1,100,000? Has our city doubled in size? No!

Such as salaries going from \$280,000 to \$545,000 in 5 years?

The dreaded legacy cost of retirement more than doubling?

Cost cannot be similar to private industries that can increase income with new products?

These cost are bankrupting states and cites all over the country.

Please answer this to the people paying the bills?

We are small and should be able to control this and must control these costs now!

Penny Overstreet

From: Bill <whp111@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 4:08 PM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: New (or Used) Fire Truck purchase

Ms. Overstreet

As the City Clerk I am writing to you to express my overwhelming dissatisfaction with the following:

We have already gone through one purchase of a Fire Truck that we (Flagler Beach) absolutely did NOT need. That's enough!

We do not NEED another fire truck for Flagler Beach. We have local agreements in place for necessary additional trucks NEEDED for a local fire. We have Palm Coast and we have Flagler County available for assistance. In fact, we ought to be recommending a merger of the fire departments as it is. The only problem is that it makes too much sense!

As you already know , the taxpayers of Flagler Beach have been pounded pretty hard the last 4 or 5 years with continued tax increases across the board but especially with the Water Utilities double digit increases year after year.

Enough is ENOUGH!

Please convey my dissatisfaction to the City Commissioners if this fire truck purchase ever shows up on the City Commission Agenda. Especially this Thursday, with deliberate underhanded tactics such as NOT being on the Agenda.

William H Petty, III
211 S 27th St
Flagler Beach, FL 32136

Penny Overstreet

From: dailydeirdre7@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:47 AM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: New Fire Truck

Please pass along my emphatic NO in the purchase of a new fire truck for the City of Flagler Beach!

After hearing one or two pro's, mostly cons on the why or why not, the answer is we just don't need one! How many trucks does a city of 4,000 people need! We have back up truck, we have a ladder truck! Please stop the spending. My taxes and water bill are on fire now! The fire Dept is supposed to put out that flame, not add gasoline!

Thank you

Deirdre Daily
2709 S. Daytona Ave.

Sent from my iPad

Penny Overstreet

From: Eva Mowry <evamowry@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 12:23 PM
To: Ken Bryan; Eric Cooley; Jane Mealy; Deborah Phillips; Rick Belhumeur; Linda Provencher; Penny Overstreet
Subject: Budget expenditures

Good Afternoon,

I would like to first thank all of you for your service to this wonderful town we are so blessed to live in.

I have recently read of a proposal for Flagler Beach to purchase another FD vehicle and I do not understand or support this expenditure. It is hoped that you table this for more discussion as I believe our town has much more pressing needs. Please give us time to have input. For example, I see a need for more FBPD members over FD equipment at this time. We need more discussion of our priorities.

We are coming into a period of hardship in this country, we need to be extremely careful of what we spend our resources on.

Thank you for listening,

Eva Mowry
300 N 4th St

Penny Overstreet

From: Debby Petty <beachbabe32136@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 2:04 PM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: Resolution 2020-12

As a long time resident (12 years) of Flagler Beach, it has come to my attention that once again there are plans to waste taxpayers money. We do not need a new fire truck, nor the expense of same.

Thank you for your attention, and hopefully, an appropriate response.

Deborah I Petty
211 S. 27 St.

Penny Overstreet

From: LeighAnn Koch <lskoch5@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 1:30 PM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: No New Fire Truck!

For City Commission Meeting Thursday, May 14..

Dear Penny,

Please read the below statement at the City Commission Meeting this Thursday.

It has come to citizens' attention that the City Commissioners plan to vote on Resolution 2020-12, a hidden agenda item that is in reality the purchase of a new \$500,000 fire truck. This item wasn't budgeted so part of the money will come from the infrastructure fund, during worst economic downfall in more than 50 years? Seriously?! We went through this same issue with enormous public ire 5 years ago when the city quietly approved an overly-expensive Cadillac of a fire truck. If you speak with people who voted against Cmr Shupe this last election as to why, you will find they held great resentment about that very issue. And why has the Fire Dept budget doubled in the past 5 years? There never seems to be enough money to properly staff our PD, who are needed every single day but we seem to have another \$500k to buy another shiny toy for the fire department? This citizen is absolutely against what seems to be another wasteful purchase.

Most Sincerely,
LeighAnn Koch
P O Box 1170
Flagler Beach

Penny Overstreet

From: LeighAnn Koch <lskoch5@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 1:30 PM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: No New Fire Truck!

For City Commission Meeting Thursday, May 14..

Dear Penny,

Please read the below statement at the City Commission Meeting this Thursday.

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Most Sincerely,
LeighAnn Koch
P O Box 1170
Flagler Beach

Penny Overstreet

From: Karenjoiner55@gmail.com
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 12:44 PM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: CITY COMMISSION MEETING THURSDAY MAY 14

Resolution 2020-12...Aka ..purchase of new Fire Truck

I ask that this email be read in its entirety at the Thursday night meeting.

My name is Karen Joiner. My address is 1408 S Oceanshore Blvd, Flagler Beach FL.

I am adamantly opposed to this resolution to buy a new fire truck. Less than 6 months into our budgeting cycle that resulted in a 23 % tax increase in my Flagler Beach property taxes, the city manager and fire chief are making an obvious attempt to end run the budget process. Our fire dept budget has Doubled in the last 5 years, and that doesn't take into account the purchase of the Last Fire Truck just 5 years ago. Our small community of 5000 people is in the midst of our worst recession and unemployment in over 50 years . This recession will strain the city budget this year and for several years to come because property values are going to drop. On top of this, we have had very large increases in our water bills for the past two years (55% on mine since 2015), and we have a failing septic system. We cannot afford, nor do we need, a new fire truck. At this time, it is appalling to remove money from the infrastructure fund as that money is badly needed for infrastructure.

Any city commissioner that approves Resolution 2020-12 is showing a devastating lack of leadership and no concern for our citizens.

Thank you.
Karen Joiner

Sent while viewing a most beautiful Atlantic Ocean...

Penny Overstreet

From: Penny Overstreet
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 10:56 AM
To: 'Steven Wood'
Subject: RE: New Fire truck.

Hello Steve,

How are you and Diane doing? Well I hope. I will forward your email to the Elected Officials and attach it as public comment for the May 14th meeting. I'm not speaking for or against the truck, but I do want to clear-up miss information. It is not the ladder truck they are requesting to replace it is the 24 year old engine truck that Robbie purchased when he was Chief.

Have a great day,



Penny Overstreet, CMC

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From: Steven Wood [mailto:stirling09@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 10:42 AM
To: Penny Overstreet <POverstreet@CityofFlaglerBeach.com>
Subject: New Fire truck.

There is NO NEED at this time for the city to be spending whatever money pace has come up with on a new truck. That truck is 5 years old and they have 2 good backup trucks in standby. There is no local volunteers even though they will say so to help man the trucks and the county does not run with 3 or 4 men to a truck. This needs to stop now. We are a small town and not the county or palm coast.

Penny Overstreet

From: Paul Reider <phreider@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 10:24 AM
To: Penny Overstreet
Subject: Firetruck

We just bought a "NEW FIRETRUCK" ; why are we buying another one? Our taxes are high enough. You administrators need to curtail spending in our city or we can vote for new representatives. Enough is "ENOUGH"

Penny Overstreet

From: Kare Padgett <karepadgett@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2020 5:29 PM
To: Penny Overstreet; Linda Provencher; Ken Bryan; Eric Cooley; Jane Mealy; Deborah Phillips; Rick Belhumeur; Larry Torino; Larry Newsom; BPace@cityofflaglerbeach.com; MDoughney@cityofflaglerbeach.com
Subject: New Fire Truck for Flagler Beach

Penny, Please include this letter in the minutes and comments for the next commission meeting.

City Commissioners, Mayor, and City Manager, Fire Chief: I would really appreciate an answer to this email. If you do not have the answers to these questions I would appreciate if you could point me in the right direction to obtain the correct information.

My husband, Mark Trammell and I are very concerned about what can only be perceived as a back handed way to conduct city business.

It has come to our attention that the City of Flagler Beach Commission will vote on Resolution 2020-12 which basically provides a back door for the City of Flagler Beach to purchase another fire truck. While we understand that the city has been putting money aside to pay for this new addition to the fire department fleet, we have to question why we need another new fire truck right now.

Questions which readily come to mind right off the bat ...

How many employees does the fire department have, and how many are on duty during any given shift? I am asking this question because I'd like to know if there are even enough employees to man two fire trucks at the same time during any given shift.

As we already have three fire trucks (2 pumper trucks and a ladder truck) why on earth would we need another one? If the answer is because those trucks are outdated, I'd like to know just how old they are and what if anything will become of them if the new truck is purchased? If the older trucks will be sold to another city for use in their fire departments, is there a specific reason why they are not good enough for use in our city?

How many instances have we had in the last 5 years where any of our fire trucks were utilized? I'd like to know the statistics for the actual number of fires that our city responded to and which vehicles were utilized for the incident; please include house fires, car fires, bar b Que fires where it got out of hand, or any other instance where an actual fire truck responded and was responsible for putting out a fire.

If the City of Flagler Beach has been able to put aside money towards the purchase of a new fire engine, how much money was put aside, and was it done monthly, quarterly, or yearly and from where were the funds received?

How much money does the City of Flagler Beach pay Flagler County on a yearly basis for emergency services? It is my understanding that the county, by law, must provide emergency services to any city in their jurisdiction when city services are not available.

It occurs to me, as a tax payer, that the cost of the fire department in this city exceeds our ability to pay for one. Since we contribute to Flagler County emergency services, perhaps our city would be better served if we just allowed the county to provide services to the city and we disbanded the cities fire department. If the city owns the fire department

building then the city could lease the building to the county in order for them to have a fire station here - we already have a county ambulance, so why not fire service?

I think one of the most egregious things we have noticed in this city is just how many vehicles the city purchases for its employees ... it seems like every time we turn around a new vehicle is being used by either the fire department, the police department or building department.

We have an antiquated city water system, but we can find funds for the fire and police departments to have new vehicles and for other city offices to be renovated ? It just seems the money the city spends is not be utilized in the areas where it is truly needed. This little city has a total area of just over 4 miles how much use do our city vehicles actually get where it is necessary to replace them on such a frequent basis?

Thank you for your time, and I await your answers to the questions posed.

Kare Padgett
713-825-8283

Sent from my iPad