



Clark County Fire District 6

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MINUTES

Clark County Fire District 6 Commissioners
Public Hearing
Station 61, 7:30 p.m.
July 7, 2015

Members present: Chairman Lothspeich, Commissioner Bloemke, Commissioner Collins

Public Hearing called to order. The assemblage gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

This is the first of two Public Hearings to be held to receive public input regarding a lid lift proposal. The second Public Hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. on July 21, 2015.

While cities and some special purpose districts have the ability to increase fees for services and use some of the proceeds to fund fire department activities, Fire Districts do not. Fire Districts are limited to receive almost all their revenue from voter approved property taxes.

In 1995, the citizens of District 6 voted for a tax proposal that provided the District \$1.50 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. In 2001, the voters of the state approved a tax limitation initiative to place a 1% limit budget increase to property taxes. This limitation has been in effect for 14 years.

During these 14 years, operational expenses have increased more than the 1% annual limitation. Currently, District 6 only receives \$1.27 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

To cope with this situation, the District has drawn reserve funds down, reduced expenses, delayed replacement and facility needs significantly to a point where expenses are exceeding income. The situation will become increasingly worse as call volume and request for service have increased steadily.

Staff recommends the District seek voter approval to restore the District tax levy to \$1.50 per \$1,000 assessed value.

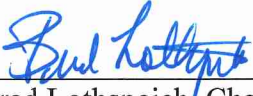
The vote would allow the citizens to decide to allow the District to continue to fall behind or move forward.

Historically District 6 has been conservative and has never requested funding increases unless it has been an absolute necessity.

Following some input from those in attendance, the Chair adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m. with the Board taking no action.

Public Hearing adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Brad Lothspeich, Chairman



Richard T. Streissguth, Board Secretary