Subj: **CDO Responds to Fire District Board Member [Test Email]**
Date: 8/15/2015 3:06:05 A.M. US Mountain Standard Time
From: info@cdonewsletter.com
To: info@cdonewsletter.com

TRI-NEWS
CENTRAL
J-6 Mescal Skyline

KEEPING THE NEIGHBORHOOD INFORMED!

PUBLIC RECORDS - RESPONSE TO MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER

At the August 3, 2015, Fire District Public Meeting, a F.D. Board Member asked the attending CDO Chair if we would be printing that the Fire District has spent nearly $900 with their attorney to handle CDO public records requests for financial documents.

Most definitely!

Let us preface the article with the following statement: The Fire District is solely responsible for whom they choose to process their public records – administrative staff, attorney, etc. That decision is strictly the District's and how District Board Members vote to spend taxpayers' money - simply handing over copies or allowing for review of PUBLIC financial documents supervised by the salaried administrative assistant would eliminate any necessity of involvement by the hired attorney, and thus any fees.

As the Fire District continues to raise taxes, CDO will continue to request public records which are not readily evident at the Fire District public meetings - documents that according to State Statutes should be posted announcing public hearings and financial records such as those identified in ARS 48-807 O and ARS 48-805.02 D2.

ARS 48-807 O requires a 12-month cash flow projection to be reviewed monthly so that the Board, and hence Public, is kept informed if current monthly expenses are over, under, or as projected for the 12-month forecast. The 12-month cash flow projection quickly allows the public to study one document to see actual income and expenses posted month by month, see what upcoming spending priorities are compared to projected incoming funds, while at the same time, monitoring the sustainability of the Board's decisions by

the projected end of the year totals. To acquire this same information without this document, an individual would have to acquire, each month, a Balance Report, Profit and Loss Report, Fund Reconciliation documents, etc., assimilate, and then compare monthly figures with a 12-month income/expense projection chart. Legislation existing for more than 2 budget years was crafted to make transparency much easier!

ARS 48-805.02 D2 states the Fire District Board shall adopt an annual budget while at the same time projecting similar line items for the subsequent year's maintenance and operations budget. This document is very important at this time so we can understand how the District is going to sustain operations when the current FY 2015-2016 Budget indicates carrying over to the following year approximately $100,000 less Revenue than in the last two years - $20,000 from the Warrant Account and approximately $36,000 from the Reserve Account. Based upon state Fire District financial challenges, Legislators created laws recognizing the importance of forecasting and projecting.

Above documents being in place would have provided a greater comfort basis when the F.D. Board approved the following expenses at the August 3rd, meeting: $ 5,000 for painting, decals, refurbishing a retired ambulance as a Support Vehicle - primarily when Engine 171 is down; $3,000 for a conex storage unit for Station 1; and $2,000 for vehicle communication equipment.

The Warrant Report for the August 3rd meeting indicates the Fire District currently has $35,309.88; National Bank Payroll Account – $ 8,493.99; Reserve/Capital Outlay Account - $103,717.42; and Petty Cash - $ 300.94. It would be praiseworthy if the Mescal-J6 Fire District Board developed the above two ARS documents and reviewed then at public meetings to show how these figures fit into the remaining 10-month big picture!

PASS ON TO A NEIGHBOR!

J-6 / Mescal CDO info@cdonewsletter.com

J-6 / Mescal CDO, 3111 Clark Road, Benson, Arizona 85602

Unsubscribe | Privacy policy