

# Observer

Coastal/Greenacres

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## Greenacres Gets State of the Art Fire Truck

Prior to the start of Monday's City Council Meeting, Fire Chief Mark Pure and Assistant Fire Chief Brian Fuller unveiled the City's new Ladder Truck. The state-of-the-art apparatus was purchased with the surtax dollars the City received.

During the design phase, Chief Pure, Assistant Chief Fuller, and Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor, Mike Wilson visited the Pierce plant in Wisconsin to customize the truck to fit the City's needs.

The \$778,000 truck includes a 500 gallon water tank replacing a truck with a 200 gallon tank. The new truck has a tighter turning radius making it more maneuverable than its predecessor. The new vehicle also has a greater capacity for equipment including Advanced Life Support medical gear. Equipped with a 75 foot ladder which can be set up in minutes to effect a rescue and a pump with greater capacity than the previous truck.

The interior includes

seats made with a non-absorbing material and the air filtration system removes harmful toxins firefighters are exposed to.

The new truck is replacing a vehicle which has been in service for over 16 years, and is now listed for sale with an online brokerage firm.

The new fire truck will facilitate the service of unique properties and commercial structures within the City of Greenacres. Greenacres Fire Rescue also services the City of Atlantis, including JFK Hospital. Chief Pure commented, "A great deal of time and effort was spent designing this vehicle to perform several functions and effectively serve the citizens of Greenacres, and Atlantis for many years to come".

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and City Council Members gathered around the truck to check out all of the unique features before entering Council Chambers for the council meeting where they issued two proclamations- one



Greenacres' new fire truck is shown to the City Council before the Council Meeting Monday evening. Fire Chief Mark Pure, Deputy Mayor Paula Bousquet, Councilmember Jonathan Pearce, Councilmember Judith Dugo, Mayor Joel Flores, Councilmember John Tharp and Assistant Chief Brian Fuller.

for Fire Prevention Week, and the other for Breast

Cancer Awareness Month. Greenacres Fire Rescue

personnel will be wearing pink t-shirts all month in

support of Breast Cancer Awareness.

## Greenacres to Add Cameras In Strategic Locations

### Cameras

Greenacres City Council approved on consent the purchase of ten Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) Milestone Cameras to be strategically placed throughout the City. The cameras will complement the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Real Time Crime Center (RTCC). The cameras will increase officer safety while enhancing apprehension and prosecution, and improving the quality of life for the citizens of Greenacres.

The Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act provides law enforcement agencies the means to deter and prevent the continued use of contraband for criminal purposes, as well as authorizing agencies to use proceeds collected under this act, as supplemental funding for authorized purposes.

In 2016, the City of Greenacres entered into an agreement with the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services and disbanded its police department. Prior to the agreement, the Greenacres Police Department had accumulated \$300,890 in its Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETF), which in-

creased to \$317,050.99 in 2018 through investment of the funds.

In June 2018, City Council approved \$135,000 from the Greenacres LETF to install new fiber optics wiring in City Parks. The adjusted balance of the fund is \$182,050.99.

City staff has requested, and received, authorization from the Sheriff's Office to seek approval from the City Council for the expenditure of \$55,820.00 from that fund for qualifying crime prevention and drug prevention purchases.

Florida Statutes 932.7055 restrict the use of forfeiture funds to certain law enforcement

purposes, and prescribe that the request to use forfeiture funds be made to the City

Council by the top law enforcement officer. In accordance with FS 932.7055 of the Florida

Contraband Forfeiture Act, City Council approval is required for all expenditures out of the City's established LETF.

A resolution authorizing an Interlocal Agreement between the City and the School District of Palm Beach County providing for shared facilities was also

passed on consent.

### No Alcohol In Parks

In other action, the Council passed the second reading of an ordinance prohibiting the consumption of alcoholic beverages in city parks.

City code provided prohibition of alcohol consumption in commercial business parking lots through a reference to Palm Beach County code requirements. Public parks were not included in the code.

Repeated complaints of alcohol abuse, empty beer cans littering the park and the hazards of broken beer bottles in the parks prompted the City to amend an ordinance to include the prohibition of alcohol in City parks. In order for PBSDO Deputies to enforce the new laws, the amendment was necessary.

Alcohol will still be permitted during City sponsored special or temporary events in the park that have the proper permits and approval of the City Manager for sale and consumption of alcohol at city or city-sponsored events. Signs will be posted in the parks.

### Prohibition of Lodging on Public Lands or In the Open

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office has received numerous complaints from residents and businesses concerning unsafe conditions at homeless campsites within the City of Greenacres. The Sheriff's Department had requested City staff to review current codes regarding this subject matter to ensure they had an enforceable ordinance

similar to Palm Beach County's ordinance. The current City Code does not contain "prohibition on lodging in public" regulations.

City staff researched ordinances from Palm Beach County, the City of Lake Worth and the Town of Jupiter. These ordinances were found to be relatively similar by prohibiting lodging in the open in simple

terms. The ordinance staff adapted for local conditions within the City of Greenacres eliminated items such as prohibiting sleeping overnight on the beach or in railway cars.

Greenacres Building Director Michael Grimm said the ordinance has been reviewed by Greenacres' City Attorney and PBSDO's legal department.

## Red Tide Strikes Area Beaches



Area beaches have been closed for almost a week due to airborne contaminants caused by a red tide that has moved into the area.