

Lee County Board Of County Commissioners  
Agenda Item Summary

Blue Sheet No. **20040134**

**1. REQUESTED MOTION:**

**ACTION REQUESTED:**

Present Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band Resolution

**WHY ACTION IS NECESSARY:**

**WHAT ACTION ACCOMPLISHES:**

**3. MEETING DATE:**

**9:30 #3**

**02-17-2004**

**4. AGENDA:**

- CONSENT  
 ADMINISTRATIVE  
 APPEALS  
 PUBLIC  
 WALK ON  
 TIME REQUIRED:

**5. REQUIREMENT/PURPOSE:**  
(Specify)

- STATUTE  
 ORDINANCE  
 ADMIN. CODE  
 OTHER

**6. REQUESTOR OF INFORMATION:**

- A. COMMISSIONER Commissioner Judah  
 B. DEPARTMENT County Commission  
 C. DIVISION

BY: *Judah*

**7. BACKGROUND:**

**8. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**9. RECOMMENDED APPROVAL:**

A Department Director	B Purchasing or Contracts	C Human Resources	D Other	E County Attorney	F Budget Services				G County Manager
					OA	OM	Risk	GC	
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**10. COMMISSION ACTION:**

- APPROVED  
 DENIED  
 DEFERRED  
 OTHER



LEE COUNTY  
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

**The Board of County Commissioners**

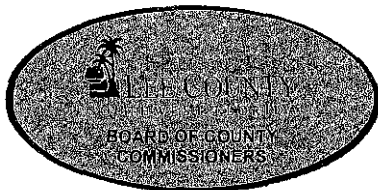
**RESOLUTION**

- Whereas: September 1961 was the beginning of the vision of the FDNY Emerald Society Firefighters to form their own bagpipe band. From October to December, approximately 55 Emerald Firefighters elected an Executive Board, collected dues, found interested instructors and a meeting place, set attendance rules and purchased their own chanters and drum pads; and
- Whereas: During the eleven months of practice, they continued to raise funds through raffles, booster sheets and dances. Bagpipes were ordered directly from Scotland, with drums purchased in the City; and
- Whereas: November 1962 marked the first appearance of the band at the Emerald Society Dance with seventeen members performing. All members were full time firefighters, practicing on their time off. Of the original members, fifteen (15) were from Bronx companies, one (1) from Manhattan and one (1) from Brooklyn; and
- Whereas: Over the past 40 plus years, the FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band has appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show, Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Telethon, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and have performed at Shea Stadium, Madison Square Garden, Carnegie Hall and the New York City St. Patrick's Day parade receiving the Best Service Bagpipe Band Trophy in 1994, 1995, and 1996; and
- Whereas: In the aftermath of 9-11, the band performed at more than 400 wakes, memorials, and funerals, having lost their Chaplain, Father George and one of their band members in this disaster; and
- Whereas: "So in the spirit of all our departed brothers and good friends, the band will continue to proudly march. Proud of our Irish Heritage, proud to be Americans, proud of the New York City Fire Department, we will carry on the tradition into the next millennium."

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Board of County Commissioners of Lee County, Florida would like to take this opportunity to welcome the FDNY Emerald Society Pipes and Drums Band to Lee County as they participate in the Edison Pageant of Light Parade and commend them for their dedication and service to the citizens of New York and these great United States of America.

Duly Executed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2004.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA



Chairman