

BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
1841 PHINNEY'S LANE
BARNSTABLE, MA 02630
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES JANUARY 9, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 4 PM by Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones at the District Water Department. Also, in attendance were Prudential Committee members Peter Eastman and Joshua Miller, Water Commissioners Evelyn Bassett and David Jones, Water Superintendent Tom Rooney, Fire Chief Frank Pulsifer, Deputy Fire Chief Rick Pfautz, Treasurer Rick Buffington, and Clerk Charles Eager.

No public comment

Motions were made, seconded and passed to accept the December 5th minutes and 12th public and executive session minutes.

Water Department:

- Under budget – 39% spent over 50% of the year.
- Paving project is complete.
- Building bid going out in February.
- Tanks going out to bid soon.
- Solar Array – In the process of seeing what has been received and what has been paid with Town Tax Collector. Water Superintendent contracted accountant about paying bills either in current year or prior fiscal year from funds generated by the arrays an Article would be needed at a District Meeting. Superintendent hope to have matter scheduled prior to the Annual Meeting.
- Town of Barnstable wells – According to Attorney Sabbatt the Town of Barnstable believe they have the legal right to buy property outside of District and outside of Town. He wondered how energized the Boards were to pursue this matter. The question then became what harm would the District face by allowing the wells. The Superintendent feels the District would suffer no harm with the proposing siting of the wells because they are downstream of our wells. The Board of Water Commissioners have no problem with this project but would if the Town proposed putting a well on the County Farm property.

Fire Department:

- On budget
- Ryan Smith began MFA Recruit Training November 2, 2017 with graduation date of January 22, 2018. Firefighter Smith scoring above average for the class. Ryan Jones will be attending Recruit Training starting January 19, 2018 and graduating March 30, 2018.
- New hire advertisement was posted in the Cape Cod Times December 15 -17, 2017 with a deadline of January 2, 2018. 14 applicants applied which were narrowed down to 6 applicants. Interviews were held January 8, 2018 and position offered to Nicholas Black who is a Chatham

firefighter/paramedic. Must complete pre-hire testing before starting which will be expediated. He will need recruit training probably put off until fall.

- Town-wide Dispatch Center discussions are ongoing.
- Secured a vehicle From Liberty Chevrolet using the Plymouth County Bid Process to replace Car 210. Chief spoke to dealer on January 5, 2018 and vehicle is scheduled to be ready this week or early next.
- Karl Sulkula looked at E-205 and said it needs repairs this year to use the truck for another couple of years. He was worried about the tank saddles. Some work can be done in house. He suggested talking to a vender from Whitman to discuss cost. Vender scheduled to look at engine next week.
- Engine 202 is back from Greenwood after service repairs.
- Chief brought annual ambulance billing review and suggested increasing rates. He said about one quarter of Comstar clients charge higher rates than Barnstable. It would increase ambulance transport by \$300 which would increase revenues each year by approximately by \$80,000. This would put us above-average of other Cape Fire Departments. Hold off until next month. Prudential Committee would like remain even with other Town Departments.
- Chief Pulsifer received survey plan from Attorney Sabbatt which shows over 90% of the Urgent Care Center is in Barnstable Fire District. Chief was advised to talk with the Hyannis Chief about how to get the calls changed to Barnstable. Attorney Sabbatt wanted to talk to the Hyannis Fire District Counsel to see how he feels.
- Fire Department in December was able to tie into Open Cape fiber-optic internet lines. Fiber-optic lines are faster and more reliable than cable. The only cost to the District is a \$2,500 tie in cost. Will evaluate the effectiveness over the next month if effective will drop cable. Prudential Committee requests Treasurer, Water Superintendent and Fire Chief correcting all Department to Open Cape and Fire Department server.
- Promotional and Pinning ceremony is in the planning stages. Promotions for Deputy Richard Pfautz and Captain Robert Cecil and pinning for Firefighter Ryan Smith and Firefighter Nicholas Black.
- Winter storm January 4, 2018 the staffing was increased due to projected weather. Department had 27 emergency calls over a 2-day period, 19 of them were during a 7-hour period during the height of the storm. There was severe flooding from bulkhead on Millway and throughout Commerce Road. Most of the area was under 3 ½ to 4 ft of seawater. Area could only be accessed by F-212, the military 2 ½ ton hi-water vehicle with personal in cold water survival suits. 16 rescues including 2 children and one dog were made by on duty shift with limited resources. No firefighter or civilian injuries.
- Operating and Capital Budgets presented

Treasurer:

- Treasurer held a note sale. Signatures needed and will be done at end of meeting.
- Researching sunset articles.
- \$130,000 overlay account release being discussed tonight at Board of Assessor meeting.
- Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to adopt the Internal Controls Policy.
- Treasurer has set up a User Manual for the office.

Clerk:

- Meeting will be held on second Wednesday of May as per the By-laws.

Prudential Committee:

- Grievance appeal deadline has passed.

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 13, 2018

FINAL OPERATING BUDGET DUE AT MARCH MEETING

WARRANT WALK THROUGH WITH DISTRICT COUNSEL AND MODERATOR AT APRIL MEETING