

**BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT  
1841 PHINNEY'S LANE  
BARNSTABLE, MA 02630**

**PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES DECEMBER 11, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones at the District Water Department. Also, in attendance were Prudential Committee member Peter Eastman, Water Commissioners David Jones, Stephen Whitmore and Evelyn Bassett, Water Superintendent Tom Rooney, Fire Chief Frank Pulsifer, Deputy Chief Rick Pfautz, Treasurer Rick Buffington, Streetlight Committee Chairman Richards French and Clerk Charles Eager.

No public comment

Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of November 13, 2018 as amended. The corrections were to attendance where Stephen Whitmore was shown as being present and to Treasurer report that October's cash had been reconciled.

Rich French reported to the Prudential Committee on the Streetlight Maintenance contract. Cape Light Compact had received two proposals for the street light maintenance. The Compact chose the Siemens proposal. The proposal had two alternatives on how pay for the maintenance of a set monthly per light price or a time and material price. Mr. French recommended the time and material option. The Prudential accept his recommendation.

- Peter Eastman made a motion to accept Siemens time and material proposal as recommended by Mr. French which was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. French did say the proposal did included a provision that the municipality or District designate an employee to transfer repair requests to Siemens. It was suggested the contacts be Kim Vermette and Karen Hickey.

Mr. French said the District would probably receive the contract to sign sometime in next few weeks from Cape Light Compact. He said he would report back at the next Prudential Committee meeting.

Water Department:

- Underbudget for F/Y 19 year having spent 32% over 42% of the year.
- Building project is complete except for the air conditioning of the front and Treasurer's offices to be completed in the spring.
- Water tank 3 is completed except the company will be coming back in the spring to repaint the top of the tank.
- The bid has been awarded for the valve project.
- Superintendent Rooney reported on Vineyard Wind Project. He said the developer is willing to have full containment of fluids at the substation planned for in the Industrial Park. The town wants the containment area to be expanded to cover the possibility of a high voltage explosion which would have the potential to send waste outside the current proposed containment area.
- Capital and Operating budgets presented.

#### Fire Department:

- On budget for year. Overtime budget is back on budget.
- Incidents up 215 over last year at the same time. This is a 19% increase. 63% of calls continue to occur between 9 AM – 5PM.
- FEMA reimbursement for March 3, 2018 storm there is no update.
- Mass Certified Public Expenditure Program application has been submitted for \$50,391 and is currently in the desk review period. Payment not expected until June 2019.
- Firefighter/ Paramedic Keith Stranger had his permanent appointment letter given today. All pre-employment test completed and passed.
- Firefighters Black and Jones Recruit Training set for April and July respectively.
- Hurricane Florence – Chief has applied for reimbursement through EMAC. No update.
- Engine 205 was picked up by M & R Truck from Whitman on November 19, 2018. It has been torn down, tank pulled/sandblasted, fab door, panels and cradles. It is progressing well.
- Department has put in for \$165,000 Assistance to Firefighters Grant for radio equipment replacement. Nothing to report yet.
- Chief will be submitting for a \$42,000 Assistance to Firefighters Fire Prevention and Safety Grant for policy management solution. District share would be 5% or \$2,100.
- Chief will be submitting Assistance to Fighter’s Safer Grant. His intent is to submit for one position. There was discussion whether he should only go for one position. His reasoning is that the additional manpower is needed between 9 AM and 5 PM as seen by the incident calls. The position would be a day position most likely Monday to Friday.
- There is a question on recruit training. There is a state policy which say admission to recruit training is restricted to firefighters with less than fire years career experience. Firefighter Black has over fire years career experience. The Collective Bargaining Agreement says “shall attend and successfully pass.... The Chief can petition for a waiver of the state’s Recruit Admission Restriction Policy. Prudential Committee is in favor of letting Firefighter by-pass the recruit training. Chief is of the opinion the Committee should bargain for a Memo of Understanding with the Local. This should be a case by case decision.
- Chief inform Prudential Committee a Step 1 Grievance has been filed for terminated employee. He will be denying the grievance. Working with Treasurer and Labor Attorney on whether employee would be entitled to unemployment benefits.
- Captain vacancy will be filled with an Acting Captain in accordance with CBA. Position not to exceed 6 months. Permanent apportionment will be filled after exam results in Spring 2019.
- Chief requests permission to fill the Open Vacancy Position. He would like to hire the best candidate available be it firefighter or paramedic. Minimum Paramedic staffing is currently met. After discussion the Prudential Committee agreed to let the Chief proceed in filling the position.
- Chief has been reaccredited as a Massachusetts Fire Chief. It is valid for 3 years.

#### Treasurer:

- Treasurer informs Prudential Committee to expect a 10% increase in health insurance premiums.
- Cash has been reconciled for November to bank and general ledger.
- Solar revenues were \$6,399.45
- FY 2018 audit is complete. Waiting on draft report. Treasurer does not expect any issues.

#### Clerk:

- Nothing at this time.

Prudential Committee:

- Prudential Committee Chairman Jones if there was any comment on draft Treasurer's contract. There being none he asks for a motion to approve the contract. Peter Eastman makes a motion to accept the 3-year contract for the Treasurer. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Fire Chief and Deputy met with the Firefighters' Local and presented the Prudential Committee offer for making the staffing and callback changes permanent. It appears the Local will agree with what was offered but the Fire Chief recommends not acting on the issue at this time. He believes additional discussion are needed to iron out all ramifications before proceeding. Prudential Committee goes along with recommendation and request the Chief report back to the Committee.

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT MEETING IS January 8, 2018

**PRELIMINARY OPERATIONAL BUDGETS DUE FEBRUARY'S MEETING**

**FINAL OPERATIONAL BUDGETS DUE MARCH'S MEETING**

**PRELIMINARY WARRANT AND MEETING WITH MODERATOR AND DISTRICT COUNSEL AT APRIL'S MEETING**