

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

**PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

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 Joshua Miller, Water Commissioners David Jones, Evelyn Bassett and Stephen Whitmore, Water Superintendent Tom Rooney, Fire Chief Frank Pulsifer, Deputy Chief Rick Pfautz, Treasurer Rick Buffington and Clerk Charles Eager.

No public comment

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the January 28, 2020 minutes.

Water Department:

- Water Department is underbudget, 49% over 58% of the year.
- Going out to bid soon on Treatment 1 which is well 3 and 4. The KOH tank. Hopefully come in under budget because the roof need repair.
- The roof at Treatment 2 is rotten and need to be replaced. Water Department also want to pull Well 2 for inspection at the same time.
- Grant update the Superintendent has been on the phone with the state. District is in a high priority area so they are hoping to get the grant. Number one priority for the District is getting Well 1 up and running. They are going for a 1.2-million-dollar grant for Well #1. Recently had had PFOS testing and well 2 and 5 exceeded the new state standard with a reading of 2.6 parts per trillion of 6 chemicals. Building a treatment plant is estimated to cost 15 million dollars per wellfield and District is seeking a state grant to pay for it.
- The Water Department presented their budget which has a .4% increase over last year.

Fire Department:

- On budget for year but maintenance to vehicles, legal, EMS supplies and protective clothing/SCBA are significantly over budget. Will be monitoring closely for the rest of year.
- Incidents are 15% over last year. There has been a 34% increase in the last two years.
- Hurricane Florence – Haven't received reimbursement yet. MEMA submitted reimbursement forms to North Carolina at the end of January.
- Assistance with Firefighters equipment grant the Department has received and programmed all radios and is in process of installing and placing them in service. Grants for this current year are open and Fire Department will be submitting a grant.
- Ladder 206 engine arrived in Wisconsin a couple weeks ago. Chief has no update on status yet.
- Staffing Study RFQ received three proposals. Municipal Resources, Inc. bid \$26,275, Emergency Services Consulting bid \$29,978 and Matrix Consulting Group bid \$30,000. The Chief recommends

awarding the bid to Municipal Consulting Group after review of all proposals. The Prudential Committee tells the Chief to go ahead and award the contract.

- Arbitration with terminated employee hearing was held in December. A request of extension on filing post hearing briefs and the Arbitrator requested a 60-day extension in rendering a decision. A decision may not be done until June of 2020.
- Deputy reported he was told the Coast Guard couldn't supply a collar for the fire boat but would make one last try within the next couple of days. He was wondering if the collar could be replaced prior to July 1, 2020. He was told there is not funds to do this. The capital article the Chief has requested is the only way to get funds and they would not be available until July 1.

Treasurer:

- The January cashbook have been reconciled to the bank and general ledger with no variances.
- Solar revenues for the months of December and January were \$3,631. Total receipts for year are \$18,612.
- The budget for FY 2020 has been 70% expended, on track to come in under budget.
- Solar revenues for the month of February thus far is \$769. Aggregate total for FY 2020 is \$19,381; on pace with last year's total.
- FY 2019 audit is complete. Bound copies were received and are in the Treasurer's Office. The District is in compliance with all general accounting principles. The Treasurer addressed most last year's issues but the accountant came up with new issues which he will address this year.
- Cape Cod Municipal Health Group says there will be no increase for health or dental insurance for FY 2021 due to a surplus in the reserve fund.
- Treasurer reported on revenues of new property coming on line. Treasurer will be check if these payments are quarterly and if properties were fully on line.
- Prudential and Treasurer's FY 2021 budget is 3.71% below FY 2020.

Clerk:

- Reported on contacting District Counsel regarding Warrant review at the Prudential's April 14, 2020

Prudential Committee:

- Date change for the next meeting to March 3, 2020.
- Discussion on the increasing the District's contribution to Health Saving Account. It was decided to hold off on any change until the next meeting for proper wording. The District would be increasing its contribution by \$500 for an individual and \$1,000 for a family in hopes more employees will elect the High Deductible Plan.

Motion made to go into executive session and not to return to public session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy. Members were polled: William Jones agrees, and Joshua Miller agrees. Executive session is convened.

**NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 3, 2020**