

BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
1841 PHINNEY'S LANE
BARNSTABLE, MA 02630
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 13, 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 January minutes.

Water Department:

- Under budget – 52% spent over 58% of the year.
- Superintendent Rooney said the District was able to obtain the amount of personal property tax on the solar arrays that has been returned to the District. Our attorney believes we have a contractual agreement to return moneys received by the District back to the Developer. In FY 2016 the Developer paid \$0.00 taxes, in FY 2017 it paid \$7,500 of which the District received approximately \$1,800 and FY 2018 has paid \$0.00 taxes to date. We had previously reimbursed the Developer \$500.00 so we need to reimburse \$1,363.63 more to the Developer. We have encumbered \$5,000 for taxes to be paid back. The Developer still has the right to bring the District to arbitration if it feels it not receiving the correct amount.

Auditor

Reports on FY 2017 audit. Auditor says they have given a qualified opinion on Accumulated Depreciation because lack of a Fixed Asset Inventory. They gave an Unmodified Opinion for the rest of the Financial. The auditor has pointed out where the District had material weakness and how it is planning to overcome these weaknesses.

Water Department

- Building going out to bid on March 8, 2018.
- Tanks bid opening on Thursday.

Fire Department:

- On budget
- Ryan Smith graduated January on January 22, 2018. Ryan Jones recruit training was postponed due to family emergency.
- Nicholas Black passed all pre-hire examinations and started work yesterday. He will be working day shift during orientation.

- Town-wide Dispatch Center discussions are ongoing.
- Took possession of Deputy's new vehicle January 17th. Vehicle is now in service.
- Received \$24,000 quote from M & R Truck of Whitman for repairs to Engine 205. Chief reviewed quote with Karl Sulkula and is looking for ways to reduce cost. Possible use of Reserve Fund to pay for repairs because it is unexpected and safety related. Prudential Committee requested Chief get at least two additional quotes.
- Chief reviewed the annual ambulance billing review and suggested increasing rates. His study of the issue he found that over the last three years 37-40% of billable addresses are outside the District. The District has not had a rate increase in five years. The other Districts are in the process of reviewing their ambulance rate. Prudential Board would like to see how the other Districts go before deciding on any increase. They would like the District's rate to be comparable to the other Districts in Town.
- Chief Pulsifer has received the stamped documents from Down Cape Engineering for the District boundaries. It shows 94.5% of the Urgent Care Center at 1220 Iyannough Road is in Barnstable Fire District and 5.5% in Hyannis. The Chief has had discussions with Chief Burke of Hyannis and he would like his surveyor to review the plans before conceding the issue.
- Fire Department in December was able to tie into Open Cape fiber-optic internet lines. Fiber-optic lines are running with no issue. Department has cut ties with Comcast. Chief has requested information on Water Department tie in and possible connection with Fire Department server but hasn't heard back yet. Building to building server connection and set up will need to be done by an IT network provider. Fire Department provider could handle the connection and setup but it would be at an additional cost because it is not in the current managed IT service contract.
- Brian Tyson who leads the public education program in the schools wrote and received a \$1,207.00 grant from Department of Fire Services this year.
- 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.

Treasurer:

- Prudential Committee vote to adopted the investment policy presented by the Treasurer.
- Health Insurance rate next year will increase 6%. No change to dental and vision insurance rates.
- Overlay request release of \$130,000 is approved.
- The Treasurer presented a spreadsheet with sunset articles totaling 46,623.42 with the \$130,000 released from the overlay account it accounts for 176,623.42 that can be used at the Annual Meeting for funding articles.

Clerk:

- Approval for use of BWB received for May 9, 2018.

Prudential Committee:

- Warrant review night April 10, 2018 with Counsel and Moderator.
- Budget meeting with Fire Chief set for February 27, 2018.

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 13, 2018