

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

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES MARCH 20, 2018

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

No public comment

Motions were made, seconded and passed to accept the February minutes.

Water Department:

- Under budget – 57% spent over 64% of the year.
- The tank project is starting. Preconstruction meeting Friday. Start spaying the tank on Monday.
- Office remodel bids have been opened. In the process of checking low bidder references. About to award contract.
- Solar project – payment has been made in the amount the District has received. No response back.
- Well head protection – Discussions with Vineyard Winds. Its substation would be located up Communications Way near The Cape Cod Times Building. The project would be 35 miles off the Cape and 14 miles of the Vineyard. Vineyard Wind is looking at 800 kilowatts of power. Substation is with zone 2 for District's water supply but said they are committed to full containment of any leakage of oil.

Fire Department:

- On budget
- Town-wide Dispatch Center discussions are ongoing.
- Took possession of Deputy's new vehicle January 17th. Vehicle is now in service.
- Chief requested quote from four vendors and only received the one quote back from M & R Truck for amount just under \$24,000. **Motion made by Joshua Miller to approve the expenditure up to \$25,000 to make repairs to Engine 205. Motion was seconded and passed.** They won't be able to take the truck until April or May.
- Chief reviewed the annual ambulance billing review and recommend increasing the rates to the average of the other Districts. He provided the Prudential Committee with a spreadsheet showing all the other District's rate and the average of them. **Motion made by Joshua Miller**

to increase the ambulance billing rates to the average of the Town of Barnstable District rates as shown on the Chief's spreadsheet. Motion was seconded and passed.

- The Hyannis Fire District has decided not to do an independent survey of the District's boundaries. Chief Burke said their chairman would like to have meeting with a Barnstable Prudential member to discuss concerns. That person is on vacation this week. Chief will be in contact with Chief Burke on setting up meeting date.
- Chief reports on information on tying Water Department to Fire Station server. Fire Department get service for free because it is Public Safety agency. Water Department would have to pay for service. Cost would exceed what is currently paying plus a connection cost of \$3,890.00 make its costlier.
- Fire Department staffed up for the recently Northeasters. They did 73 storm related calls between the two storm. MEMA is gathering data from all the different counties looking for damage assessments to see if they meet threshold for FEMA reimbursements. Chief has filed the paperwork.
- Date hasn't been set for promotion and pinning ceremony.
- Chief talked to West Barnstable Chief about the decommissioned ambulance and he has no problem waiting until July to sell it to us. It was explained money had to be appropriated at Annual District Meeting. Chief also express our concerns if the ambulance couldn't be left under cover to let us know and we would try to make provisions to keep it covered.

Treasurer:

- Treasurer recommends bonding the tank project with rates on the upswing. Prudential Committee agreed.
- Treasurer is up to date on reconciliations.
- Bond copies of the audit have been received.
- By using an additional \$15,000 of Free Cash on next year budget the tax rate can be reduced to \$2.94 per thousand.
- Health Insurance open enrollment is from April 11 to May 11.
- Sexual harassment policy was brought up.
- Employee handbook is being modified but would like to talk about it next meeting.

Clerk:

- Clerk requested additional descriptions for Fire and Water Articles.

Prudential Committee:

- Nothing

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT MEETING IS APRIL 10, 2018