

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

**PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES SEPTEMBER 8, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones at the Water Department Office, 1841 Phinney's Lane, Barnstable. Also, in attendance were Prudential Committee member Joshua Miller and Andrew Miller, Water Commissioners David Jones, Steve Whitmore and Evelyn Basset, 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 July 29, 2020 minutes, as amended to remove all writing after adjournment, the information was from a prior meeting, and August 11, 2020 minutes as written.

Water Department:

- Water Department is on budget for the year. Spent 16% over 16% of the year.
- Went out for bids on the KOH tank at Well 4, Treatment 1. Came in underbid and the project will be starting soon.
- Well 5 after negotiations with the state is being used because of the overuse of wells 3 and 4 their numbers increased. District has notice on website
- Superintendent has been sending letters to the county about capping the fire academy site. Water Commissioners and Prudential Committee believe now is the time to enlist an environmental lawyer on behalf of the District to see if the county and Town of Barnstable will become more attentive to the District requests. District consultant believes the soil at the Fire Academy needs to be removed before capping the site.
- District hasn't received any information on \$200,000.00 state grant or 0% loans.

Fire Department:

- Fire Department is on budget for the year.
- 100 runs behind last year.
- **(2018)** Assistance to Firefighter Grant with the awarded equipment grant the Department has received, programed, installed and placed in service all radios. Due to best pricing after purchasing all radios there was a surplus of \$18,297.44. Chief has submitted a grant amendment to purchase 5 additional radios, 8 spare microphones and 10 spare antennas. Waiting on last five portable radios. Grant will likely close mid to late September.
- **(2019)** Assistance to Firefighters Grant – Equipment Grant the Chief has put in for a \$1.2 million Quint. District was awarded \$761,904.76. Prudential Committee accepted grant subject to voter approval. Special District Meeting scheduled for September 23, 2020 for voter approval. Fire

Department was approved August 26, 2020 as part of the H-GAC Buy Cooperative Purchasing Program which provides additional options for purchasing apparatus. Federal Government won't allow the sale of the ladder truck to another Department.

- Chief recently submitted an **(2019)** Assistance to Firefighters Grant – SAFER Program for a firefighter position. Was awarded the grant for \$305,225.88. This a three-year grant. The Prudential Committee voted to accept the grant subject to voter approval at there meeting of September 1, 2020. Special District set up for September 23, 2020 seeking voter approval. Received letter from staffing study consultant recommending District accept grant.
- Chief submitted for **(2019)** Assistance to Firefighters Grant - COVID-19 Supplemental. Very limited on what it can be used for such as Personal Protective Equipment related to COVID-19. Submitted for \$22,708.00 for personal protective equipment and a decontamination machine. There is a 95/5 % split. Fire Department is unlikely to be awarded grant at this point.
- Fire Department submitted for Federal CARES Act Provider Relief Fund. Reimbursed for Medicare transport COVID expenditures for June the Department received \$11,997. Applied for an additional \$40,400 for lost Medicare revenue for April and May. Fire Chief received a letter in August saying the District is ineligible for additional funding.
- Will be submitting for MEMA Federal reimbursement for COVID expenses. Have completed applicant briefing with FEMA representative. Chief is itemizing equipment and personnel costs directly related COVID-19. This is ongoing with appropriately \$30,000 of expenses have been accumulated to date.
- Staffing Study is ongoing. Report still estimated the to be ready in late October. They wrote a letter to the District in favor of filling the position made available by the SAFER grant.
- Barnstable County Health Department will be holding a drive thru flu clinic for Barnstable County on September 26, 2020 in the County parking complex from 8 AM to 12 PM. Barnstable Fire Department has been in the planning effect and will assist with incident command, event safety and medical evaluation if necessary due to reactions.
- September 11, 2020 ceremony will be held virtually at the Fire Station 9:55 AM (live screened on channel 18) and at St. Mary's at 4 PM.
- FY 2020 Ambulance CPE Program application period is open. District will be filing an application. The District has received over \$260,000 in the last four years.
- Access Ambulance willing be housing two trucks on Breeds Hill Road. Won't be effecting Fire Department's service. It will be transports patients between facilities.

Treasurer:

- Cash has been balanced to the bank and the general ledger for the month of August.
- Treasurer has submitted Free Cash reports to DOR and the preliminary number is \$313,077.
- Treasurer has started work on FY 2021 Recap. Will need to set a date for classification meeting once Assessor provides his schedule.
- The 2020 audit is ongoing and should be completed in the next couple of weeks.
- Ambulance billing receivables of \$199,362.38 need to be written off with the approval of the Prudential Committee. These meet to policy criteria to be written off and the auditor have we write them off on a yearly basis. **Motion by Prudential Committee to write-off \$199,362.38 uncollectable ambulance billing receivables. Passes unanimously.**

Clerk:

- Special District is set to go.

Prudential Committee:

- Nothing

**Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously by the Prudential Committee to adjourn the meeting.**

**NEXT Meeting is October 13, 2020**