

**BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
255 BREED'S HILL ROAD
HYANNIS MA 02601**

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING FEBRUARY 10, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Prudential Committee Chairperson William Jones. Also, in attendance at the District Offices at 255 Breed's Hill Road, Barnstable, MA were Prudential Committee members Andrew Miller and Wellesley Marsh, Water Commissioner David Mason, Fire Chief Christopher Beal, Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Brailey, Treasurer Rick Buffington, Interim Clerk Peter Eleftherakis, Owner's Project Manager Steve Rizzo and Town Counsellor Gordon Starr.

Chairperson Jones opened the meeting by noting that there would be no minutes from the January 2026 meeting to review due to the illness of Clerk Charles Eager.

There was no public comment.

Water:

- FY 2026 budget is tracking within budget.
- Satellite well for well 3 – a 48-hour pump test was completed and the well is producing at 800 gallons per minute. Samples were taken and those results came back today and were clean of PFAS. Andrew Miller asked if that meant there was no PFAS or if it just came in under threshold. Commissioner Mason confirmed that it came in at zero but that the readings can vary over time.
- The treatment system for wells 3 and 4 is at the 50% design phase. There is a timing issue moving forward with the application for state revolving funds.
- Wilkens Phase II – The project manager is finally on board with the water line route as specified by the district. They will be connecting at the back of BJs with a loop. They have also acknowledged that they will be paying the fee associated with the Water Balance Program and they are in the process of calculating that. Wellesley Marsh asked for confirmation that the builder will be covering all water-related costs such as mains, site costs and testing. Commissioner Mason confirmed that they are.
- The budget for 2027 was submitted to the Prudential Committee.
- Discussions continue with Napoli Associates. They are investigating possible responsible parties in the PFAS contamination lawsuits. No decisions will be made until discussions are held with the Prudential Committee. No estimate at this time on how long the process will take.

Fire:

- On track to finish FY26 on budget.
- The department is requesting approval to purchase two new Chief's vehicles to be funded from the current operating budget. The vehicles will be Ford Explorers and the purchase price is estimated to be \$135,000. Purchase will be made after April 1st. The surplus funds

are the result of leftover money from grants received over the last two years. The Chief has received approval from the grant agencies to apply the excess grant funds to outfitting the new engine, thereby freeing up money in the operating budget. Discussion was held on whether an article would be needed to expend the money. It was agreed that no article will be needed. The two existing vehicles will be kept and used by the planned EMS Officer and Daytime Fire Prevention Officers when those two positions become active in the future. Wellesley Marsh asked if there are more pressing needs in the department that could be funded with the available funds. The Chief replied that the new vehicles are the most pressing need in the department at this time. Chairperson Jones recommended that the matter be discussed again at the March meeting after Attorney Sabatt has been consulted.

- RECC (Regional Emergency Communication Center) update – Interviews have been held for the new Director position and one should be hired in the next four to six weeks. Committees will be created to work on creating Policies, Procedures and General Operations. A grant for construction will be submitted by the Town of Barnstable late winter or early spring. Expected to open Fall 2028. We are waiting for cost estimates before we consider whether to join.
- Engine 3 is in final production and testing and will be completed and delivered by March 2026. Final inspection is Feb 17 – 19. The Capital Improvement Committee will be travelling to the plant in Wisconsin next week.
- Gas meters and calibration equipment that were funded through an Assistance to Firefighters Grant have been ordered and are scheduled to be delivered this week. Training is scheduled for March 10 and 11.
- We are still waiting for an extension on our FEMA grant. We have received the amendment on our Assistance to Firefighters Grant that will allow us to purchase \$93,151 of new hoses, nozzles, appliances and hand tools for the new Engine 3.
- The department is proud to report that Deputy Chief Brailey has received his Masters Degree in Public Administration with a concentration in Fire Executive Leadership from Columbia Southern University. Congratulations from all.

Treasurer:

- Draft of the Fiscal 25 audit should be ready next week.
- Work has begun on preparing the Annual Report. Reports will be printed by mid-March. Chief Beal will confirm the location of the Annual Meeting.
- On track to finish FY 2026 at or under budget.

Prudential Committee:

Fire Station Construction

- On budget. About a week was lost due to weather but should be able to make it up.
- Foundation walls about 50% poured.
- Footings are 75% complete.
- Responses have been received and are being evaluated for the Telephone Equipment RFP.

Clerk

- Moderator Peter Eleftherakis has agreed to serve as Interim Clerk at least until the Annual Meeting. The Prudential Committee is still waiting to hear back from attorney Sabatt to confirm whether that will be possible.
- Charlie Eager will not be running for reelection as Clerk.
- District Elections will be Saturday May 9 and the Annual Meeting will be Wednesday May 13. There are openings for one Prudential Committee Member (3 years), two Water Commissioners (one for 1 year and one for three years), one District Clerk (3 years) and one District Moderator (3 years).
- Chief Beal will reach out to Sandra Eager to retrieve past Clerk files.

Fire Station Building Needs Committee

- Seven people have been selected. In addition, a member of the Prudential Committee and a Water Commissioner will be on the committee. They will be charged to review options for the future use of the fire station and make recommendations on the best use. Committee members to be appointed include:
 - Brian Ackell
 - Evelyn Bassett
 - Susan Eleftherakis
 - Scott Hempstead
 - Marilyn Quinn
 - Henry Ramage
 - Dean Smyrnios
- Andrew Miller will be Prudential Committee designee.
- **Motion was made by Andrew Miller to appoint the above seven individuals to the Fire Station Building Needs Committee, seconded by Wellesley Marsh and passed unanimously.**
- **Motion was made by Andrew Miller to appoint Peter Eleftherakis as Interim Clerk, seconded by Wellesley Marsh and unanimously approved.**
- Chairperson Jones requested a meeting of the Prudential Committee and Department Heads in late March to finalize capital expenditure articles and budgets for the Annual Meeting. Wednesday March 25 was selected as the date. 4:00 PM at the Water Department offices. All agreed.
- Chair Jones also requested that the April Prudential Committee Meeting be scheduled for Tuesday April 7 at 4:00 PM at the Water Department. All agreed.

Motion was made by Wellesley Marsh to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Andrew Miller and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 5:10.

Respectively Submitted,

Peter Eleftherakis
Interim Clerk