

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

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING DECEMBER 12, 2023

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 was Prudential Committee member Andrew Miller, Water Commissioners David Mason, Stephen Whitmore and Evelyn Bassetts and Water Department Superintendent Sean Anderson, Fire Chief Christopher Beal, Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Brailey, Treasurer Rick Buffington and Clerk Charles Eager.

Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the November 14, 2023 minutes. Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the November 27, 2023 Classification Hearing minutes.

Water Department

- Water Department is slightly over budget for FY 2024. Having spent 45% over 44% of the year.
- Millway leak was fixed by replacing about 40 feet of line last Friday.
- Spoke with Nate from Tetra Tech explaining what we are looking for and he is going back to bounce it off his superiors.
- Given an update on Commerce Road project. It is at the 75% design for the project. Superintendent Anderson explained that the District may scale back the project for cost savings and not replace mains on Harvey and Locust Streets. They understood and will get back with revised estimated cost for the project.
- Superintendent Anderson is waiting to hear back from the engineer on the feasibility of leaving one wall of the building open for the GAC vessels to arrive.
- Superintendent Anderson said he gathered and sent out a large amount of information to Napoli (PFAC class action Law firm) on December 5th.

Fire Department:

- FY2024 is 1% under budget for the year.
- Barnstable Fire Department was not selected for any FEMA grants. The Chief will be filing for a few grants this year for equipment for the new engine and funds for training. The Department will also be looking to file another SAFER grant to add more staffing at an appropriate time in the future.
- The Department has applied for the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Department of Fire Services FY 24 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant. The Department applied for three different items, ballistics gear, PFD's and electric vehicle shut down tool. Should hear in January if grant is awarded.
- No update on the Regional Emergency Communications Center Grant.

- Bulk fuel purchasing with Hyannis Fire Department is going well. Fuel usage increased by 400 gallons in first quarter of FY24 over FY23. This was due to increase call volume and driver training. Will keep tracking and update during the year.
- Boiler replacement still at 99% complete. Should be completed Thursday.
- Kitchen renovation is at the 99% complete. Waiting on backsplash tile work that will be completed by one of the Department members with donated materials.
- Department is looking at some small improvements to the HVAC system to ensure it continues to operate as designed. They have two quotes and waiting on two more to add two mini splits to the station.
- Alex Smith and Dan Black are attending the Mass State Fire Academy at Bridgewater and will be graduating November 17, 2023.
- The Fire Department's Promotional and Awards Ceremony will be held this Saturday November 19, 2023 at the Fire Station at 10:00 AM.
- The Department has contracted with Public Consulting Group with Medicare Ground Ambulance Date Collection System audit. Currently they are assisting the Department in the data collection phase.
- The Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief contracts are expiring on June 30, 2023 and request to go into executive session to negotiate their contracts.

Treasurer:

- Treasurer on track to finish FY 2024 under budget.
- November's cashbook balanced to the bank and the general ledger with no variances.
- The Audit for FY 2023 is ongoing and should be completed next week.
- Recap documents have been certified by DOR. The tax rate for FY 2024 has been set at \$2.11 per thousand. Slightly higher than the rate stated at the classification hearing. More funds needed to be put in the overlay account.
- Treasurer submitted his draft operating budget. He will not have any capital requests.

Clerk:

- Reported on the By-Law Committee meeting

Prudential:

- **Motion made and seconded to go into executive session and not return to public session to negotiate contracts for the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief. All Prudential members were polled and agreed to go into executive session.**

Next Meeting is January 9, 2024

Capital Budget due January Meeting

Preliminary Operational Budget due February Meeting

Final Operational Budget due March Meeting

Annual Reports due March 1, 2024

Preliminary Warrant review with Moderator and District Counsel at April Meeting

Final Warrant due to Clerk April 19, 2024