

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

**PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE DECEMBER 8, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Prudential Committee member William Jones at the Water Department Office, 1841 Phinney's Lane, Barnstable. Also, in attendance was Prudential Committee members Joshua Miller and Andrew Miller, Water Commissioners David Jones and Evelyn Basset, Water Superintendent Tom Rooney, Fire Chief Frank Pulsifer, Treasurer Rick Buffington and Clerk Charles Eager.

No public comment

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the November 10, 2020 minutes, as written.

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the December 1, 2020 minutes, as written.

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the December 4, 2020 minutes, as written.

Water Department:

- Water Department is under budget for the year - 39% spent over 41% of the year.
- Well #1 pump has been installed waiting on electrician to wire it so PFOS testing of water can happen.
- Roof on well #4 is in the works.
- KOH tank has been ordered to be put in the treatment site for well #3 and #4.
- Test borings for Well #2 and #5 for the future.
- Superintendent has got official notification but is reasonably certain the District will receive the 0% state loan.
- Response from County and Town on PFOS contamination has been minimal. County has received the Conservation Commission to proceed with its remediation of the Fire Academy site by taking down the burn building. District does not believe the remediation is sufficient to stop the problem. District has hired an environmental attorney to try and get the county to fix the problem. District doesn't believe the Fire Academy is the lone source of the pollution. It believes the municipal airport is just as liable if not more for pollution of the water supply.
- Superintendent and Chairman Jones had a virtual meeting with the developer (New England Development) of the new proposed housing project off of Wilken's Way. Chairman Jones told the developer that the project is in the Barnstable Water District. Fire Protection and Water is supplied by the Barnstable Water District not the Town of Barnstable or the Hyannis Water District. He explained the problem the Water District is facing and reason why he told the Commission couldn't supply the project with water. He explained the Lorusso Trust had donated \$500,000 spread out over year to build a well which would supply the housing

development they were proposing which couldn't be used this summer due levels of PFOS found in the water. He explained there is a plan in place to resolve the problem to wells #2 and #5 but it costs \$900,000,000. Chairman Jones requested a timeline for the project. This company will build the framework for all three buildings at once. Then they will start the interior work on the first building. They are looking to start in March 2022. They believe the first move in realistically will be March of 2024. Chairman Jones reiterated that the District is looking at ways to pay for costs to fix the problem with wells #2 and #5 and anything they be able to do would be appreciated.

- No capital items this year.

#### Fire Department:

- Fire Department is on budget for the 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. The Department received the last five portables and accessories. They have been programed and put in service. All grant money has been spent, still waiting on FEMA for close-out documents.
- **(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 was held on September 23, 2020 and grant was approved along with the District's match and overmatch of \$558,095.30. Chief accepted the award with FEMA on September 23, 2020. Capital Improvement Committee dialed in final specifications. Pierce Mfg. drafted purchase contract for \$1,123,511.00 to date. Contract was signed November 17, 2020.
- 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 their meeting of September 1, 2020. Special District was held September 23, 2020 where the grant was approved and so was \$18,220.00 in pre-employment costs. Chief accepted the award on September 23, 2020. Four candidates were interviewed November 2, 2020 after an offer of employment was extended to Michael Watts. Mr. Watts is completing pre-employment examinations only one left is his physical agility test which is coming up next week. His expected start date is January 4, 2021
- 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 \$44,000 of expenses have been accumulated to date of which the federal government reimburses 75% of eligible expenses. Chief complete application and submitted it on October 13, 2020. The desk review reduced the amount submitted by \$17,451.47, mostly the AeroClave Decontamination Machine. Revised amount for reimbursement is approximately \$26,000.
- Staffing Study is ongoing. Report is estimated the to be delivered now in December.

- Marine 219 will be had it collars replaced November 16-20 by Safe Boats International. Boat is still at Five Star Buses' facility waiting on full expansion of the foam before dropping the boat into the water.
- Fire Department has received new turnout gear. The old gear is over 10 years old and out of compliance. There is no market for the gear. The Chief will donate some of the gear to a volunteer fire department in upstate New York. Chief has a complete inventory of the gear and will have the department sign a liability waiver acknowledging that the gear is out of NFPA compliance. The rest will be donated to fire departments overseas.
- Upon annual inspection of boilers, a moderate leak was discovered from in the main boiler with heavy corrosion. Station is currently running on secondary system designed to increase capacity for high demand. Will likely need to replace the boilers soon. Chief is obtaining cost estimates now and developing scope of services to solicit quotes.
- Chief and Deputy contracts negotiations are due.
- Capital budget items presented.

Treasurer:

- Cash has been balanced to the bank and the general ledger with no variances for the month of November.
- Treasurer is on track to finish fiscal '21 under budget.
- The bond sale for the Fire Department's Fire Engine was conducted on November 11, 2020. Century Bank was the winning bidder with a rate of 0.65%. The funds have been received and the Treasurer will be making the prepayment when the invoice is received.
- District tax rate certified at \$2.61 per thousand.
- Recommendation by the auditor and the financial institution hold OPEB funds to adopt MGL c. 32B, s. 20. This will allow the District to put the funds into a Trust. There is a question if a By-law change might be need. The Treasurer and Clerk will look into the matter.

Clerk:

- Preliminary Operational Budget are next on the list for January.

Prudential Committee:

- Due to the increase of virus cases the meetings may have to go back to zoom.

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

**Next Meeting is January 12, 2020**

**PRELIMINARY OPERATIONAL BUDGETS ARE DUE IN JANUARY  
FINAL OPERATIONAL BUDGETS AND PRELIMINARY WARRANT ARE DUE IN MARCH  
REVIEW OF WARRANT WITH DISTRICT COUNSEL AND MODERATOR IS IN APRIL  
ANNUAL MEETING IS IN MAY**