

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

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES MARCH 23, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones at the Barnstable Water Department, 1841 Phinney's Lane, Barnstable. Also, in attendance were Prudential Committee members Joshua Miller and Andrew Miller, Treasurer Rick Buffington and Clerk Charles Eager.

Meeting with the Treasurer to review articles for placement in the Annual District Meeting Warrant and funding sources. The beginning of the meeting was used to go over the capital articles of the Fire Department. Capital articles 3 through 6 all do with Fire Station renovations and are combined into one article. The total amount requested by the Chief is \$90,000.00 after being asked at the February meeting the Chief, Deputy and the Prudential Committee to tighten up the numbers. Chairman Jones believes the number might be too tight and proposes adding a contingency figure for any unknown problem. The Committee decides to add \$10,000.00 to bring the total \$100,000.00. The Treasurer advised the Committee nothing has been added to the Stabilization Funds for the past couple of years. The Committee proposes to use \$100,000.00 of Free Cash to fund the General Stabilization Fund and \$60,000.00 of Free Cash to fund the Water Stabilization Fund. The Prudential Committee then proposed to use \$500,000.00 from the Ambulance Account towards the Fire Department Operating budget. They will also propose to use \$20,000.00 from the Ambulance Account to fund Ambulance billing. The Committee also proposed to use another \$60,000.00 of Free Cash against one of the operating budget articles. There are two sunset articles and they are proposed to be used against the Fire Station renovation articles. It is estimated the tax rate to be \$2.82 for FY 2022, which is the same last year's estimate.

The Warrant is set except for a possible by-law article.

A terminated employee has put in for his retirement and Barnstable County Retirement asked if he is entitled for health insurance. Chief will contact the Labor Attorney to find out the answer.

The Treasurer brought up the OPEB Trust article. Who does the Prudential Committee want to be trustee? The Committee said it should be the Treasurer as in the majority of other municipalities.

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.