

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

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 2021

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 Stephen 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 February 9, 2021 minutes, as amended. The amendment is to the Water Department. Minutes said the Water Department was under budget and it should have said over budget for the year to date.

Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the February 16, 2021 minutes, as written.

Water Department:

- Water Department is under budget for the year - 65% spent over 75% of the year.
- The new KOH storage tank at well #4 is in. Piping and electrical work are the only things needed to complete the project. Hopeful project will be complete in three weeks.
- Rubber roof on well #4, treatment 1 has been installed.
- Contract documents for Well 1 have been completed. Robert Our was awarded the contract and are to start work by April 1st on the install prefab concrete treatment building. The well pump is in but there was not enough voltage to power the pump. Had a temporary generator brought in and pumped the new pump for six days, 700,000 gallons an hour 8 hours a day. To test for PFAS. Previously pumping the well once a month to take a bacteria sample. Run the well for about an hour once a month, take a sample and shut it off. The District was warned that a well that was non-detect once it was pumping it started detect PFAS. The District after the six days of pumping got the samples from the well. The samples are at the lab now. Hopeful they will come back non-detect.
- Continuing to do the preliminary work for the sanitation plant at wells 2 and 5. Pilot study has been done. It will help with the planning what type of treatment will be needed. Also, planning where plant should be located. The likely have to put in two lagoons, one a sealed lagoon where the sludge will go and second lagoon for the water.
- District has been working with County's consultant BETA Group. They doing a site assessment to determine where our contamination is coming from. We provided them with a lot geological

data from the site from test boring we have done and give them access to the site. County still has not capped the fire academy site yet. It is just fenced off.

- No updates on the Wilken's property.

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. Currently the Ladder Truck is pre-build stage.
- Chief 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. He started work on January 4, 2021. He is working out well so far. Reimbursements have been coming in.
- Chief has submitted for (2020) Assistance to Firefighter Grant – (SCBA and Cascade). Requested replacement of SCBA Filling Station and SCBA. Both are item at the end of their lives. Total grant is for \$243,152.28 which the federal government will reimburse 95%. Cost for the District is \$12,157.52. Award announcements expected in May 2021.
- Chief has applied for (2020) Assistance to Firefighter Grant – (SAFER). He requested two additional positions based on staffing study. Total grant is \$670,212.00 which is 100% reimbursable. Award announcement is expected in June/July.
- Chief has submitted for a 2021 Massachusetts Department of Fire Service Equipment Grant. Grant is for a maximum of \$10,000 based on population. The Chief has applied for replacement SCBA facepieces and handlights. No cost to District but it is a reimbursement grant. Award expected in mid-March.
- Submitted 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. \$20,468.89 received on February 5, 2021. Under the President's new directive the District may be eligible for 100% cost reimbursement.

- Staffing Study is ongoing. Draft report received on February 8, 2021. Fire Management reviewed the report and provided some revisions. Final report will be completed soon.
- Marine 218 motor replacement has been shipped. Will be back in service by mid-Spring.
- Captain Brian Tyson recently completed PFALSE Program. It is a 40 hour course through DFS.
- Annual report should be completed this week.

Treasurer:

- Cash has been balanced to the bank and the general ledger with no variances for the month of February.
- Solar revenue is 21,476.
- Treasurer is on track to finish fiscal '21 at or under budget.
- Prudential Committee will decide whether to appoint the Treasurer as Trustee of the OPEB Trust.
- Open enrollment for insurance will be from April 15th to May 31st.

Clerk:

- Nothing

Prudential Committee:

- District Counsel is looking into a possible By-law change to allow the Prudential Committee to spend up to a certain sum of money from the Ambulance Fund without voter approval for EMS supplies during a declared state of emergency. He will provide any article for the Warrant.
- Chairman Jones requests Clerk to contact Counsel and Moderator to extend an invitation to the next Prudential Meeting to review the FY2022 Warrant.
- Meeting to finalize Warrant set for March 23rd at 4:00 PM in the Treasurer's office.

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

Next Meeting is April 13, 2021