

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

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING APRIL 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 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 Evelyn Bassetts and Dave Mason, Water Superintendent Sean Anderson, Fire Chief Christopher Beal, Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Brailey, Treasurer Rick Buffington, Moderator Peter Eleftherakis, District Counsel Charles Sabatt and Clerk Charles Eager.

Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the March 14, 2023 minutes

Water Department

- Water Department is under budget.
- Flushing going on this week.
- Preliminary plan shown for treatment plant. Progress has been made since Special District Meeting.

Fire Department:

- Is over budget and expects to finish the year a little bit over budget. 78% spent so far over 76% of year. Extra costs due to staff turnover, retirements, promotions and new hires.
- All SAFER Grant firefighter have finish orientation and have been assigned to shifts.
- Fire Department has transitioned to Image Trend Elite except for crew management. The Department signed a contract with Vector Solutions to handle the crew management program. The build of the program is finished and went operational on April 1st.
- Firefighter Steven Bunker graduated from the Mass Fire Academy in Springfield on March 24th and is assigned to Group 3. Graduated second in class.
- Firefighter Matthew Judge is attending Mass State Fire Academy in Bridgewater with anticipated graduation date of June 16th.
- FY23 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant from state has been spent. Equipment has been delivered and distributed to all members. All paperwork has been submitted. Reimbursement should be coming in next four to six weeks.
- Trees in front of the Fire Station have been condemned by the Barnstable Tree Warden. The Town will remove the trees at no cost to the District. The Department will be working with designer to configure the front of the station. The designer is donating his services.
- New boiler is 90% installed and should be completed soon.
- The grant application for a regional emergency communications center was submitted March 2nd. This grant is for the center design. One of a number of grants

- There was a 2-alarm fire on March 15th at the building holding the Tuscan Cuisine, 3180 Main Street. Got to use the new Ladder Truck and staffing model of four on the truck and the Captain in the car.
- The Fire Department has entered into an agreement with Hyannis Fire to purchase fuel for both vehicles and engines from them. This should result in significant saving to the Department.
- Finally, the Fire Department is moving forward with the kitchen remodel. Union will provide the labor.

Treasurer:

- Treasurer says he will finish the year under budget.
- Treasurer said for the first time in many years, there will be no split payroll this year; a pay period ends on the last day of the fiscal year.
- Treasurer asks about stipend for his payroll backup. Prudential Committee believe the backup would be double dipping. Backup is already on payroll. Prudential Committee believe it would be better to reimburse Fire Department for time backup is doing work for finance.
- Treasurer asked about having the deuce and half vehicle disposed. Chief need to explore the issue further.
- On the question of providing a stipend to the Deputy for not taking insurance through the District. The Deputy has done some research and only ones receiving compensation have been bargained for. He found no elected official has received any extra pay for not taking health insurance. Prudential Committee decided to offer the stipend to Deputy Chief as he has bargained for it.

Clerk:

- Has questions about where to hold Annual Meeting. Chief and Clerk will look into the availability of the Unitarian Church. If not available look to see availability of St. Mary's. The Harbor View Conference Room was pretty tight for the Special District Meeting.

Prudential:

- Counsel is looking into a Recall Provision. He is trying to determine if Special Legislation is needed.
- Committee is also looking how to handle a person not fulfilling their duty. Counsel believes you would only need a By-law with a process to follow to remove the individual.
- District Counsel believes at this time the only way to remove an individual is have them resign. There currently a problem with one member of the Prudential Committee carrying out their duties. District Counsel knows the individual's attorney and will approach him to see if the individual will resign.
- Commonwealth Wind will like to require an easement across property the District owns on 586 Oak Street. Currently, there is an easement across the property. They would like to buy an option to purchase an easement. Prudential Committee decides not to go ahead with allowing an easement.
- Prudential Committee went over the Warrant Articles and how to fund them.

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

Next Meeting is May 9, 2023