

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

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES JULY 29, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM by Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones at the Barnstable Fire Station, 3249 Main Street, Barnstable. Also, in remote attendance were Prudential Committee members Joshua Miller and Andrew Miller, Fire Chief Frank Pulsifer, Deputy Chief Rick Pfautz, Staffing Study Consultant Peter J. Finley and Clerk Charles Eager.

The meeting was called for the Prudential Committee to give their input into the study during the consultant's site visit. Chairman Jones provided an overview on the finances and budget process of the District. The consultant asked what the catalyst of the study was. It was the increasing runs and District growth. The consultant asked what was the Prudential Committee plans for the study. Chairman Jones said they would review the study and determine how to proceed. The study would not just be placed on a shelf. He explained the District had competing needs. The Water Department has needs in protecting the water supply due to the State's new Water Quality Guidelines and PFAS exposure which is costing the District millions of dollars. He explained the Fire Department has its own competing needs. He said he believes a new ladder truck is the most critical need of the Department at this time.

The consultant said if the study recommended change the change would be done incrementally. Chairman Jones said before any change would happen it would have to be brought in front of the voters. He said if the change made it through the Prudential Committee review to the voter the support has been great from the residents. Although, the District is not subject to Proposition 2 and half it is always on their minds. They try to keep and increase at or as near to 2.5% increase as possible. The average cost of homes in the District is about \$600,000.00 with a projected tax rate this year of \$2.81 per thousand. It was estimated the cost per \$100,000 on the tax rate is equal to 1 cent per thousand.

The consultant thanked the Prudential Committee for their input and time.

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.

The next order of business was a vote to increase the District's contribution to high deductible health insurance plans.

- **Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously by the Prudential Committee to increase the District's contribution for individual plans by \$500 and family plans by \$1,000.**

Finally, the next meeting date to discuss if the Annual Meeting will proceed was confirmed for June 9, 2020
Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

NEXT Meeting is June 9, 2020