PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

144 NEWTON STREET

South Hadley, MA 01075

Minutes: September 1, 2026

Location: South Hadley Library

Attendance: Kurt Schenker, John Wojciechowski, Steven Blaney

Call to Order

The Prudential Committee meeting was called to order by Kurt at 6:00 PM.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Minutes presented for approval: March 3, 2026, and July 7, 2026.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by Steve and seconded. Unanimously passed.

Approval of Ambulance Adjustments, Vote on Acceptance

A motion for the ambulance adjustments for the date of July of 2026 in the sun of $197,193.99 was made by John and seconded. Unanimously passed.

Chief's Report, and Vote on Acceptance

Monthly activity for August 2026: 58 fire calls and 208 EMS calls, for a total of 255 calls.

Year-to-date: 354 fire calls and 1,605 EMS calls, for a total of 1,959 calls.

Other activity: 7 business inspections, 6 school inspections, 16 smoke/COs, 15 lock boxes, and 1 oil burner. Events included the Fourth of July fireworks and Big Rig Day.

Station work: grinding was complete, sealant had been applied to cracks, and epoxy work was expected to begin the following day or Thursday.

Gear racks: The Chief presented a proposal to replace the old, rusting gear racks removed during station work with 25 new racks. The estimated cost for 24 racks was discussed as approximately $12,000–$14,000, to be paid from the building fund.

APPROVED 11/03/2026

Events and training: three fire drills, a school/town 360 meeting before the start of the school year, and Stop the Bleed training for teachers and nurses. A 9/11 ceremony was announced for 9:45 a.m. at the Town Commons on September 11.

Community Connect: The Chief described a postcard with a QR code to encourage residents to sign up for the Community Connect portal, where residents may voluntarily enter demographic and contact information. The information would be available to responders through the District's existing software and in-vehicle iPads. The postcards were expected to be distributed at events and through the Council on Aging; mailing was not planned at this time.

Personnel: The Chief reported that Krista Downs had resigned to attend nursing school. Leo Couture was also reported to have submitted notice and was expected to leave in mid-to-late September; the exact timing and status should be confirmed.

A motion to accept the Chief's report was made by Steve and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report, and Vote on Acceptance

The Treasurer reported attending the Massachusetts Municipal Treasurers Association annual school and passing the exam to become a Certified Massachusetts Municipal Treasurer.

The Treasurer is consulting with CliftonLarsonAllen LLP regarding compliance with the Fair Labor Standards Act and the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, particularly the calculation and reporting of overtime and which compensation components may count toward the regular rate. A template is being developed for review by the District's attorney. The Treasurer noted that overtime-related reporting will need to be reflected on W-2 forms for the current year.

The Treasurer requested approval for the District to pay for her to take an employment-law course at Holyoke Community College. The course cost was stated as $1,039 and was described as relevant to the Treasurer's duties and would result in obtaining a human-resources certificate. A motion to appropriate funds for Kari's class for human resources was made by Steve and seconded. The motion passed unanimously. There was discussion about using the District credit card with the course bill attached to the warrants for documentation.

A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Kurt and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED 11/03/2026

New Business

The Committee received a letter of thanks from a former Board member following an emergency response on the morning of July 24, 2026. The letter praised the crew's response, stabilization, and provision of oxygen during transport to the hospital. The writer reported subsequently learning of a 90% blockage in two arteries.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by John and seconded. Unanimously passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM.

APPROVED 11/03/2026