

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
144 NEWTON STREET
South Hadley, Ma 01075

Minutes March 21, 2024

Location: South Hadley Fire District 1 – 144 Newton Street, South Hadley, MA 01075

Attendance: Bruce Perron, Kurt Schenker, John Wojciechowski, Kari Scytkowski

Chief's Report

Chief Stark, Captain Houle, and Lieutenant St. Andre went to E Ink and did pre-planning to mitigate any and all situations that may arise there.

Currently, there are two boats in-house. One is a 1990 Boston Whaler that is owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The other one is a 1995 Zodiac that the district owns.

Lieutenant St. Andre notes that the Boston Whaler needs repair, and it might not be worth putting money into repairing it, which would cost approximately \$35,000.00. An option they have looked into is purchasing a new boat. He believes that the one that would best suit the district's needs in the most cost-effective way is a Zodiac Patrol Pro 6.5, which would cost approximately \$65,000.00.

Kurt motions that they ask the Fire Chief to please set up the RFP with whoever he needs for help and send it out for bids, and he believes he'll have to go through Kari to have the advertisements. John seconds. Unanimous.

Clerk/Treasurer's Report

Ambulance Adjustment

John motions to make ambulance adjustments for the period of February 2024 for the amount of \$214,409.42. Kurt seconds. Unanimous.

Public – PVPC Update

Fire District 2 was awarded a grant from the PVPC for \$7,500.00 for a member of the PVPC to coordinate with Fire District 2 about shared services, and District 1 was invited to sit in. Nothing definitive has been decided so far.

Budget Discussion

Promotional Exams: \$2,700.00 is requested.

Administration Office Expense: \$36,000.00, down from \$40,000.00 because we will not be getting a new copier.

Discussion about the election equipment. Kari notes that there appear to be no grants available to pay for new equipment.

Discussion about recommendation to increase OPEB to \$150,000.00 from \$100,000.00.

Discussion about how to fund the boat.

Discussion about legal fees account. It is currently at \$35,000.00, but it may go up due to a lawsuit that was brought against the district.

CBA Appointment for Contract Negotiations W/ Union

Bruce suggests that Kurt would be a good choice for the CBA appointment, given his experience. John motions that Kurt takes care of the CBA negotiations for the union. Bruce seconds. Unanimous.

24-48 Hour New Business

Discussion about the assistant clerk/treasurer temporarily completing the minutes for the Prudential Committee. There is a discussion about where the money to pay for those hours would come from, given that the unemployment was paid out of the administrative payroll account.

John motions that they have Shauna catch them up in the minutes for whatever is missing. Kurt seconds. Unanimous. Kurt notes that he will write a bylaw change and try to straighten it out at the annual meeting.

Kurt is electing to give up his stipend; Kari asks if they should adjust the prudential committee salary item. They decide to not adjust it in case something happens to somebody on the board.

Next Meeting 4-2-2024

The next meeting will be on 4-2-2024 at 5:30pm at the South Hadley Library.

Motion to Adjourn

John motions to adjourn. Kurt seconds. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Shauna Condon, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer