## PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE FIRE DISTRICT #1 144 Newton Street South Hadley MA 01075

**Prudential Committee Minutes** 

Date: 8-06-2020

Call to order: 6:03pm

Members present: Kevin Taugher

John Wojciechowski

Bruce Perron Terie Fleury Bob Authier

- Bruce motions to approve the minutes of the 07-30-2020 meeting. Motion seconded. Unanimous approval.
- Discussion and vote on unit bank fiscal advisory service agreement: Bruce moves to accept the service agreement for \$400. Motion seconded. 03-0 agreement.
- Clerk Treasurer report: Outstanding invoice for Gowrie Group. Terie reports that it may end up being paid as a 2021 bill and will discuss with Tom Scanlon the best way to handle it.
- 2020 salary and overtime budget: Bob reports he stayed within the expected numbers.
- (<inaudible> 00:12:43) Reports and adjustments to be approved. Bruce reports that Kurt is missing, so the discussion is tabled.
- IAFF Contract Documents for John and Bruce: Next step is to forward them to the union. Then, have them review it, and once they agree, arrange to have copies signed by the Committee and the union. Bob will speak with Chase about moving forward with the process and then report back to the Committee.
- Bob's monthly update on events: Bob reports the May 2020 calls for service as fire: 43 and EMS: 170; the June 2020 calls for service as: fire: 55 and EMS: 181; the July 2020 calls for service (up until July 21st) as: fire: 37, EMS: 119; the July 22-31 calls for service as: fire: 60, and EMS: 181; and the August 2020 calls (up until August 06) as: fire: 16 and EMS: 41. Bob also reports the June 2020 inspections as: business: 8, smoke/CO: 27 and lockbox: 1; and July 2020 (up until July 21st) as: business: 13, smoke/CO: 22 and lockbox: 1.
- Chief's compensation and continued discussion from the November meeting: a report is made that the legal council was informed this would be discussed at the last meeting, and

he recommends that a formal response to the request be made in writing and that an executive session should be scheduled. KT clarifies that the original meeting to discuss this issue was set for July 23rd, but John asked that the meeting be postponed. Someone pointed out that the postponed meeting was rescheduled for last week, but the topic was never put on the agenda. KT responds by saying that "continued discussion from 11/29/2019 meeting: chief's compensation" was listed for the meetings on July 23rd, 30th, and tonight (08-06-2020). KT is questioned about whether or not he has asked the chief if he wants the topic to be discussed in an open meeting or executive session. The chief indicates that KT has not asked him. KT clarifies that they can go into executive session to discuss whatever contract language the chief suggested with their attorney and how they want to proceed without having the chief present. A question is raised about why the discussion of a raise is occurring so late, after the end of the fiscal year, KT indicated that the discussion of the raise was predicated on the chief coming back with a proposal within 90 days, as outlined in the November meeting, and that due to the pandemic, the initial schedule was impeded. It is suggested that the discussion tonight about the chief's compensation is tabled. KT recommends they schedule an executive session, make decisions about how to proceed, and move forward from there. A tentative executive session is scheduled for 08-13-2020 at 6:00pm, and KT will check with Brendan to ensure he is available for that meeting.

New business: KT, due to a medical condition, would like for the warrants to be sent scanned via email and puts it on the record that he has made this request several times before. Due to sensitive and private information being included in the warrants, the treasurer indicates that she will not send them out that way. She reports that she has made other accommodations instead. KT suggests following the guidance from the secretary state's office, including Terie responding to KT in writing that the information in the warrant is not to be divulged, citing the exemption it is under, and then arranging to send a copy of the warrant to the secretary state's office and having them redline what is and isn't to be included in a warrant as public information. A question is raised about what law KT is citing, and he responds that it is the Public Records Act. The treasurer asks why it is so important for KT to receive the warrants via email when KT twice refused to sign the warrants on the night of the annual meeting. She also reiterates her willingness to make accommodations for KT, and asks him whether before he came to the station every time there were warrants to be signed or if he signed them at a meeting, KT responds by requesting an entertainment for a motion to adjourn. The question is further pushed. John indicates that he knows that KT would sign the warrants at the meetings and that he is a witness of it. A question is raised about what KT is actually looking for in the warrants. KT responds that he is looking at the hours worked, the overtime worked, and he adds that the expense warrants are public information and reiterates that he would like for the treasurer to consult with the secretary state's office about what on the warrants constitutes public information. Terie indicates that it is more time-consuming for her to scan the warrants than it is for KT to drive and sign them, which raises the point that it is a labor issue.

• John moves to adjourn at 7:14pm, seconded by Bruce, unanimous affirmative.

Prudential Committee Clerk

Bruce H. Perron