

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

Prudential Committee REGULAR Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: May 10, 2018

Location: Fire District Headquarters, 144 Newton Street

This session is being recorded

Call to Order: 6:31p.m.

Prudential Committee Members Present: Michael Wozniak, Chairman
Kevin Taugher, Clerk
Bruce Perron, Member

- Call to order
- Signing of warrants authorizing payroll and expense payments
- Re-organization of Prudential Committee; election of officers
 - KT nominated Mike Wozniak to be Chairman. No additional nominations, Nominations closed, 3-0 vote in favor of MW as Chairman. BP suggested that MW attend an open meeting training session.
 - BP nominated KT as clerk. No additional nominations, Nominations closed, 3-0 vote in favor of KT as Clerk
- Review and approval of previous meeting minutes
 - BP moved and KT seconded approval of the minutes for the regular meeting of April 19, 2018. Vote 3-0 in favor.
- Vote and sign agreement for Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
 - Documents regarding lease of space on water tanks. Documents submitted have been reviewed and approved by Jeff Cyr, Water Dept. and Mark Beauregard, FD counsel. KT made the motion to approve and sign the agreement with Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for cell phone tower service at the water tanks; seconded by BP. Vote 3-0 in favor. Documents were signed by all members of the PC.
- Roll call to enter EXECUTIVE SESSION in compliance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), subparagraph 3.
 - MW made the following motion: "I move that the Prudential Committee retire to meet in executive session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), subparagraph 3, of the

Massachusetts General Laws, for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the South Hadley District 1 Professional Fire Fighters Association following which the Committee shall reconvene in open session. An open meeting on this subject would have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the South Hadley Fire District No. 1."

- This requires a roll call vote: MW "Aye" Bruce Perron "Aye" Kevin Taugher "Aye"
 - Time entering executive session: 6:35 pm
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- The committee returned to open session at 7:29 pm.
 - Confirmation of agenda items for future meetings and next meeting date
 - MW asked who was responsible for composing the agenda. KT said that he had been handling the content of the agenda since the 72 hour window had expired and it needed to be posted with at least 48 hours notice.
 - KT said that a standard agenda be posted by the chief as soon as the next meeting date has been identified. If the chairman needs to add to the standard agenda, the agenda can be revised up to 48 hours before the date and time of the meeting.
 - KT suggested that MW work out with the Chief and Monica on how best to handle the posting and updating process.
 - We will have a June meeting to sign off on some bonding issue.
 - Monica Walton asked for the following:
 - FY 2017 Audit Report
 - Email from Metras Insurance, quote for Fire District insurance
 - Bonding update
 - Update on fiber for internet and telephone
 - KT items for the next agenda was to have the reports to be spoken to at the meeting provided to the committee at least three days ahead of the meeting so the committee has the time to review the information. This will enable us to go through the meeting more quickly and not have to rush through the reports too quickly.
 - KT wanted an agenda item on mutual aid for both fire and ambulance operations. We are doing a lot of support for FD #2. Support for Granby, Chicopee and Holyoke is also provided to some extent. What are we obliged to do? What triggers us to roll a truck or ambulance to another jurisdiction? What triggers FD #1 to respond to FD #2 for fire or ambulance calls; do they have to ask, or do we do it on our own? This issue is also related to discussions on combining the districts. How much overlap is there on fire and ambulance calls with FD #2? An estimate at our last meeting is that the ambulance calls could be around 70% of an overlap. There was an issue raised about supporting Hadley with ambulance calls. Another issue is intercepts. Kurt Schenker said that ambulance

costs to the district amount to \$1.5 million a year, and with 1,500 transports that amounts to an average cost of \$1,000 per run. Regarding intercepts, we were getting paid \$250 per intercept, but with one of our paramedics out the door, how do our costs get affected by another call? We have mutual aid with ambulance calls to Granby, but is it 5 calls a year or 50? We need more information. What should ~~the~~^{our} charges really be? Should we be looking at retainers, like Amherst had with Hadley and Shutesbury, where there's a contract that Amherst will provide ambulance services for a fee, and get to collect the payments for the ambulance calls. If other communities start cutting services, will FD #1 get even more calls, since there's an expectation that they will count on the mutual aid to serve them. KT said that he has no idea of where we stand, and we need the trends and figures for these fire, ambulance and water rescue calls for the last three years in order to do an analysis. Also, copies of mutual aid policies, written or verbal. KT says we don't want to get taken advantage of due to our benevolence. Holyoke, what triggers FD #1 to respond? Do we stand by one of their stations, or respond to the fire? What do we respond with? I don't want our new truck to get in trouble. Bottom line, we need a lot more attention to this, and if we need to update agreements, let's start with the data.

- Chief Authier said there's no cost associated with mutual aid. Ambulance calls like intercepts get reimbursed. Amherst gets \$400.
- KT asked for all mutual aid and intercept agreements and all of these calls for the last three years.
- KT moved and BP seconded the motion to have all reports issued to the committee three days in advance of the meeting where they will be presented. Voted in favor 3-0
- The next meeting will be May 24, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the fire station.
- KT moved and BP seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Voted 3-0 in favor.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

Voted and approved by PC on May 24, 2018.

A true copy, attest:



Kevin E. Taugher, Clerk