

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

MEETING DATE: October 21, 2010 6:00 pm

LOCATION: Fire Headquarters, 144 Newton Street, So. Hadley

ATTENDANCE:
Prudential Committee: Edward Wall, Chairman
Raymond Hopfe, Clerk
Raymond Miner

INTERIM CHIEF: Brian McClafin

OTHERS: Barry Del Castilho, Kurt Schenker, Monica Walton, Gene Os, Mark Beauregard, Jim Beauregard, Pauline McClafin, Denis Hogan

MINUTES: The minutes of September 21, 2010 were reviewed and approved by all attending board members

WARRANTS: Payroll and Bill Warrants were signed and approved by all attending board members.

BOARD OF
ENGINEER
MEETINGS: Mark Beauregard researched and spoke with the Attorney General's office regarding whether the Board of Engineer meetings are open meetings or just staff meetings. There are certain statutes that under the Mass law would make these meetings open. Mark Beauregard will send Chief McClafin the list of statutes. If none of the listed statutes are being discussed then the meeting can be considered a staff meeting. See Mark Beauregard's letter to the Prudential Board.

CHIEF PROCESS: Barry submitted his recommendations to the Prudential Board about hiring a new Chief. See Barry's recommendation.

Salary range for ad was approved at \$85000.-95000. Allowing some flexibility. This was based on what the current Chief pay with stipends, longevity, holiday and allowances. All attendees of the meeting were asked how they felt about the salary range. Everyone was good with it.

Questions discussed: Ed Wall are ads placed within the Chief Assoc. web sites accessible to anyone. Chief McClafin answered yes. Anyone can go onto the web sites and view employment opportunities.

Ed asks what an assessment center is. Barry: a group of fire professionals that would put potential candidates through certain exercises and scenarios. This will include a writing exercise. Barry will choose the group which will consist of 3-5 fire professional. No additional testing will be required.

Ed asked what surrounding towns/cities have done. Chief McClafin said that Granby, Northampton, Amherst, Holyoke and Fire District 2 have all use assessment centers.

Ray Hopfe asked if the Board of Engineers approves of this process. Chief McClaflin said yes. He also asked how many current Firefighters would qualify to go through the process. Chief McClaflin believes it is 7 firefighters.

Kurt: What will be the residency requirement for the new chief? Everyone felt that the Chief should live in the district or at least in town. However, this will be somewhat negotiable. A possible radius might be set up. Surrounding towns all have different requirements. This will be discussed further.

CHIEF MOTION: Ray Hopfe made a motion to move forward with Barry Del Castilho's recommendations on hiring a new Chief. Ray Miner seconded. All approved.

T-MOBILE/COMCAST: The district received a notice from T-Mobile asking to let Comcast have access to the water tower on Industrial Drive. This letter also came with a contract from Comcast. Mark Beauregard does not recommend that the Prudential Board sign this contract until he looks into it further. Tabled until next meeting.

BY LAW COMMITTEE: A By-law committee will be set up to review and revise the current District By-laws. It is recommended that an ad be placed in the Town Reminder and the committee consists of 2 residence and 3 district employees. Barry Del Castilho will be asked to be the liaison to the prudential board. Anyone of interest will ask to submit a letter of interest to be review by the Prudential Board. Members will be appointed for a one year term.

COMMITTEE MOTION: Ray Hopfe made a motion to form a By-law review and advisory committee. Ray Miner seconded. All approved.

MOTION TO Raymond Hopfe made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Ray Miner.

ADJOURN: Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Raymond Hopfe, Clerk