

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

MEETING DATE: February 18, 2010 7:30 pm

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

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

Treasurer/Clerk: Meg St. Martin

Fire Chief: Bill Judd

OTHERS: Kurt Schenker, Kevin Taugher, Gene Os, Brian M, Evan B., Bob B, Jim P.

MINUTES: The minutes of January 21, 2010 were reviewed and approved; Edward Wall made a motion to approve, seconded by Raymond Miner. Motion carried. Minutes of February 11, 2010 were tabled.

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

UNCOLLECTABLES: Uncollectable amount submitted from medicompts was approved and signed by attending board members.

CONSULTANT: Barry DelCastilho Submitted a contract to the Prudential Board. All members reviewed and agreed to hire Barry as consultant. Ed Wall signed the contract.

BUDGET FY 2011: A proposed budget was submitted by Chief Judd, Kurt Schenker and Meg St. Martin. Wages need to be reviewed as the amount seems low. Health Ins. increase is due to a 5% increase and the growth of the Fire Department. New Equipment increase: Turn-out gear is 7-9 years old and needs replacing. Major Building Improvements increase: Generator was installed in 1974. Parts are no longer available to make repairs. A new generator will need to be purchased. Ladder Truck increase: Truck has some rust issues that need to be repaired. Uniforms increase: additional employees. Taxes (payroll) increase: Has not been increased in 3 years.

Ambulance: A new ambulance will need to be purchased in the very near future. Wages for ambulance service will need to be broken down. Currently Overtime hours are broken down between fire and ambulance.

The same will need to be done for regular hours. It was suggested that the breakdown is 3 men fire salary and 2 men ambulance salary on a shift. It will be discussed further and with auditors.

CHIEF HIRING: Chief Judd is retiring August 1, 2010. Barry DelCastilho will begin review the Fire Departments procedures for hiring a new Chief. Kevin Taugher has been asked to join and work with Barry about these procedures. They will also be looking at the Chiefs job description, tasks, benefits and salary. It is the Prudential Boards wish that a salary survey be complete of other fire departments in similar size. Barry and Kevin will also come up with a recommendation of qualifications, education, experience, certificates, physical testing and leadership that a Chief position should require. Companies for the required testing will also be looked into.

TOWN AMBULANCE ACCT: A letter was sent by the Selectboard wanting a joint meeting with both Districts to discuss the relationships and issues among the town and districts (see letter). Ed Wall spoke with FD 2 Prudential Committee Chair John Moriarty and both agreed that they would take no action to this letter.

AMBULANCE: Ambulance rates will go up starting March 1. Fire District 2 will also raise their rates to the same.

RIVER ROAD SAFETY: Captain Pula addressed the Prudential Board with his concerns regarding the fire safety on River Road. (See letter). Ed Wall would like to hear more on this and would like to know what could be done.

MOTION TO TO ADJOURN: Raymond Hopfe made a motion to adjourn, motion seconded by Ed Wall Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Raymond Miner, Clerk