

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

Date: 6/15/17

Location: Fire District Headquarters, 144 Newton Street

Call to Order: 6:52

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

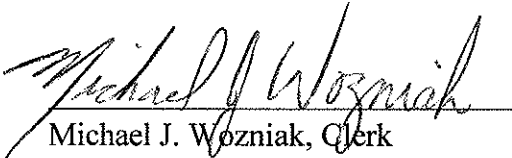
Session is being recorded.

- Sign warrants authorizing payroll and expenses
- The 4/5/17 minutes of the executive session and regular Prudential committee meeting were approved
- Motion made by Bruce Perron, seconded by Michael Wozniak to accept the 5/17/17 Prudential Committee meeting notes. Unanimous affirmative vote.
- There was a discussion on the attestation clause as approved at the 5/17/17 meeting. There is a concern by the chief and the treasurer/clerk about their having a working knowledge of all "applicable state and federal laws". Kevin Taugher is to contact Fred Sullivan to see what language might have to be changed for the attestation clause. In the meantime, and as a compromise, the P.O. summary page and the payroll sheets will contain the following language and be signed by the appropriate party: I, _____, attest that all of the information submitted in this document is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.
- Captain Schenker presented the ambulance report for the month of May 2017. There were receipts of \$96,217.40 and adjustments of \$144,534.69. Motion made by Bruce Perron, seconded by Kevin Taugher to adjust the ambulance receipts by \$144,534.69 Unanimous affirmative vote. Kevin Taugher is requesting a report from Comstar that breaks out the ambulance calls so we know what % we are receiving from each of the companies that are billed in any given month.
- Chief's report: Chief Authier received quotes Pierce for two stock Pierce Arrow XT platforms. Truck 1 (which was view on-site in May and has 7,000 miles on it) is \$1,195,000. Truck 2, which we have not seen has a price tag of \$1,125,000. Monica is to check on bond costs over a 10 year period. Engine 1 is temporarily out of service but should be back in service by June 16th. The air conditioning unit is running intermittently and cannot keep up with the demand when the temperature is above 80 degrees. Fountain has estimated that it would cost \$16,000 to replace the unit. Chief Authier is to get 2

more quotes for a replacement unit. Tighe & Bond submitted a proposal to conduct a structural capacity analysis for the existing concrete slab in the apparatus bay for \$6,400. Kevin Taugher recused himself of all discussions with Tighe & Bond due to conflict of interest. Motion made by Bruce Perron, seconded by Michael Wozniak to approve this study. Unanimous affirmative vote. Tighe & Bond also submitted a proposal to conduct a revised engineering scope of services to make the fire headquarters ADA accessible. Motion made by Bruce Perron, seconded by Michael Wozniak to table this proposal for now and have Chief Authier obtain quotes from other local general contractors such as Marion Construction, O'connell & Sons and D.A. Sullivan. Unanimous affirmative vote. There was discussion regarding the June Town Administrator's report in relation to the fire notification system upgrade for the town hall. It was agreed that there is a need to more clearly communicate to the town administrator and other town entities what services the district can or cannot provide in terms of services. Kevin Taugher and Chief Authier are to follow up on this issue. Motion by Michael Wozniak, seconded by Bruce Perron to accept the chief's report. Unanimous affirmative vote.

- Amendments to the AT&T lease contracts as developed by the water department were submitted to the Prudential Committee for approval. The new lease contracts that were negotiated were slightly lower but it was felt that the district needed to agree to the new terms in order to avoid losing the lease contracts entirely. Motion made by Bruce Perron, seconded by Michael Wozniak to approve the new lease agreements. Unanimous affirmative vote. All six copies were signed by all three board members.
- Bruce Perron again brought up his concerns about how the warrant article regarding the strong chief/weak chief was handled. Bruce expressed concern that he wasn't getting accurate information from our legal counsel Mark Beauregard. Kevin Taugher asked repeatedly why Bruce did not express his concerns to the Prudential Board before contacting Mark. He could not provide any valid reason why he took these steps and instead spoke with Mark several times prior to the vote on this article. Bruce Perron is to compose a memo outlining all of his interactions with Mark Beauregard including dates, times and discussions. The Prudential Committee will review this correspondence and decide what next steps need to be taken regarding this matter.
- Motion made by Kevin Taugher, seconded by Bruce Perron to enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the South Hadley District 1 Professional Fire Fighters Association because an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the district. This is in compliance with the provisions of Chapter 30A, Section 18(A) (Exception #3) and return to open session at the conclusion of Executive Session. The roll call vote is as follows: Michael Wozniak, Aye, Bruce Perron, Aye and Kevin Taugher, Aye. Time entering executive session: 8:22 p.m.
- Time returning to open session: 8:36 p.m.

- Motion made by Kevin Taugher, seconded by Bruce Perron to enter into executive session. A roll call vote was taken to enter into executive session in compliance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), subparagraph 3, and return to open session at the conclusion of executive session to discuss strategy with respect to pending litigation. The roll call vote is as follows: Michael Wozniak, Aye, Bruce Perron, Aye and Kevin Taugher, Aye. Entered into executive session at 8:38 p.m.
- Time returning to open session: 9:03 p.m.
- There was a discussion on the questions presented by Chief Authier dated 4/18/17 regarding the position of fire chief. While many questions were answered, Kevin Taugher suggested that Chief Authier have follow up discussions with the clerk/treasurer and water superintendent on such matters as compensation, indemnification, insurance and social media. There was also a discussion regarding whether the chief is eligible for holiday pay. In a letter to Monica Walton from Kevin Taugher dated 4/1/16, it stated that the salary of the chief will be \$102,000 and he was considered an exempt employee. The chief cited MGL Chapter 48, Section 57E stating that fire chiefs that work on certain holidays are entitled to holiday pay regardless whether they are exempt employees or not. Kevin Taugher is to follow up with legal counsel to resolve this issue.
- There will be a meeting on 6/22/17 at 6:00 p.m. regarding Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)
- The next regular Prudential Committee meeting will be held 7/11/17 at 6:30.
- Motion to adjourn by Michael Wozniak, seconded by Bruce Perron. Unanimous affirmative vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.


Michael J. Wozniak, Clerk