

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

Prudential Committee Meeting Notes

Date: July 11, 2017

Location: Water Department Headquarters, 438 Granby Rd., South Hadley, MA

Call to Order: 6:30

Meeting is being recorded

Members Present: Kevin Taugher, Chairman
 Bruce Perron, Member
 Michael Wozniak, Clerk
 Chief Authier
 Monica Walton, Clerk/Treasurer

- Sign warrants authorizing payroll and expenses
- Chief Authier presented his chief's report and noted that Ladder 1 was out of service for 3 days for preventive maintenance. Amherst Engine 5 will cover. He recommended that the 2001 Chevy Tahoe and the 1993 Ford ambulance be sold by placing an ad in the Town Reminder using a closed bid process which would close on August 31st. He will also investigate selling Engine 3 using Fire Trader. They sell equipment on a commission basis. We should have more information on the value of Engine 3 by the August meeting and what are options will be on selling this engine.
- A general discussion was held regarding the "attestation clause". Kevin Taugher provided a sample of an attestation clause that is currently being used by the Inspector General's office. He has asked Fred Sullivan to review this clause in relation to other laws such as the IRS, The Fair Labor Standards Act, Family and Medical Leave Act, Mass. DOR, Mass. Inspector General's Office and Mass. General Laws such as the Open Meeting Law, Uniform Procurement Act, Municipal Finance, Public Records and others. Kevin is not averse to providing a consultant to explain any or all of these laws and procedures. He should be able to provide a finalized version for the next meeting.
- An operational review was discussed. Chief Authier provided a current list of personnel by shift and the Clerk/Treasurer provided a summary of benefits. A management methodology would have to take place at a future meeting to analyze staffing levels that are appropriate for the District based on the equipment that has to be manned. Any proposed change in benefits would involve collective bargaining with the union.
- The fire district has had many meetings in the last several months to discuss the replacement of Engine 3, a 1986 Ward Pumper truck which has been placed out of

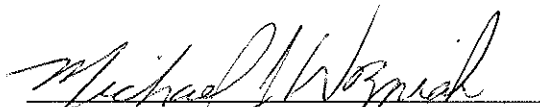
service due to multiple failures at inspection. Our ultimate goal is to replace Engine 3 with a Pierce 100' reach Platform Quint (5 function truck). A slightly used (7,000 miles) Quint would cost the District \$1,310,700. An additional \$185,700 for equipment would also have to be expended in order to make the new truck fully functional. This brings the total needed to \$1,495,700. The District anticipates bonding \$1,400,000 for this truck over a 10 year period. Assuming an interest rate of 4.5%, the total cost, including interest over a 10 year period would be \$1,746,500. The District would have to schedule a special district meeting for 9/21/17 in order to present this proposal to the voters. This will require a 2 week notice. Part of the financing could come out of the vehicle stabilization fund which has a current balance of \$244,655. Existing equipment could also be used to keep the equipment costs down. Kevin will contact State Representative John Scibak & State Senator Stanley Rosenberg and Mike Wozniak will contact Representative Richard Neal to see if any state or federal grants are available for fire trucks and whether there are any low interest loans that might be available to finance the new truck. Kevin will also contact Prudential Committee chairman Ken McKenna from Fire District 2 to see if Mount Holyoke College would be interested in contributing to the cost of the truck since it would be used in both districts.

- There was a discussion about legal counsel representation by the Prudential Board. Bruce Perron expressed his displeasure with the actions of legal counsel Mark Beauregard. Bruce has a written list of his concerns that he is not sharing with the Board at this time and won't be discussed at this meeting. Kevin suggested that Bruce set up a meeting with Mark Beauregard to go over those concerns. Bruce is to tell Mark that will discuss this at a future meeting that he will be invited to attend.
- There was a discussion about updating the bylaws to reflect the vote taken at the annual meeting regarding MGL Chapter 48, Section 42A. Motion made by Michael Wozniak, seconded by Kevin Taugher to have Monica update the bylaws to reflect the vote from the 4/24/17 meeting. Vote was 2 to 1. Bruce Perron opposed. The updated bylaw will be sent out the Prudential Committee and a final vote will be taken at the August meeting.
- According to the Attorney General's office we should only be approving Executive Session meeting notes in an Executive Session. Regular meeting notes are to be approved in open session.
- Motion made by Kevin Taugher, seconded by Bruce Perron to accept the 4/20/17 meeting notes. Michael Wozniak abstained. Vote 2-0
- Motion made by KEVIN TAUGHER, seconded by BRUCE PERRON to accept the 3/23/17 meeting minutes. MICHAEL WOZNIAK abstained. Vote 2-0.
- Motion made by BRUCE PERRON, seconded by MICHAEL WOZNIAK to accept the 6/15/17 regular meeting minutes as amended. Unanimous affirmative vote.
- Motion made by BRUCE PERRON, seconded by MICHAEL WOZNIAK to accept the 6/15/17 joint meeting minutes between FD1 and FD2. Unanimous affirmative vote.

- Motion made by BRUCE PERRON, seconded by MICHAEL WOZNIAK to accept the 6/22/17 joint meeting minutes with FD1 and the District 1 Water Department. Unanimous affirmative vote.
- Motion made by KEVIN TAUGHER, seconded by BRUCE PERRON to enter into Executive Session in compliance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(A)(subparagraph 2) and return to open session at the conclusion of executive session to discuss Fire Chief position. Roll call vote: KEVIN TAUGHER, Aye, BRUCE PERRON, Aye, MICHAEL WOZNIAK, Aye.
- Entered Executive at 7:50 p.m.
- Returned to open session at 7:58 p.m.
- Motion made by KEVIN TAUGHER, "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." seconded by BRUCE PERRON.

Roll call vote: KEVIN TAUGHER, Aye, BRUCE PERRON, Aye, MICHAEL WOZNIAK, Aye

- Entered Executive Session at 7:58 p.m.
- Returned to open session at 8:11 p.m.
- Under other business, Kevin checked with Fred Sullivan whether the chief is eligible for holiday pay even though he is an exempt employee. According to MGL Chapter 48, Section 57E the chief is eligible to collect holiday pay for the holidays that he worked. Monica will set up a warrant so that the chief can be paid for his holiday time.
- The next regular meeting is scheduled on 8/15/17 @ 6:30 to be held at FD1 headquarters.
- Motion made by BRUCE PERRON, seconded by MICHAEL WOZNIAK to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous affirmative vote.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.


Michael J. Wozniak, Clerk