

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES – FEBRUARY 21, 2018
REGULAR MEETING

Present: Chief Maruca, Deputy Chief Pananen, Prudential Committee members Edward Smith, Van Northcross, Chrystal LaPine, Treasurer Ray Pirrone, District Accountant Susan Rao, District Clerk Elaine Grace, District Moderator Kate Mitchell, Water Commissioners Kris Clark, Chairman Arne Ojala, Mark Wirtanen, and Auditors Rob Lynch and George Gilmore.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Smith at 7:00 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

AUDITORS' REPORT:

Rob Lynch and George Gilmore presented the FY2017 District Audit results. In the Auditor's Opinion, the District's financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles).

The auditors did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that could be considered material weaknesses. The auditors continue to recommend that the District document key financial practices, procedures, and risk assessment. It is understood that the District is working toward this goal. The Chief asked Mr. Lynch if specific suggestions could be provided, and Mr. Lynch agreed to do so. Mr. Lynch noted that in FY2018, the District's OPEB liability will be required to be reflected on the statement of net position. As of June 30, 2017, the District's net OPEB liability is \$714,310. In the future, the auditors recommend that prior to signing off on the Tax Rate Recap, the budget reconciliation should be reviewed and signed off.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The Prudential Committee meeting minutes of November 15, 2017 Regular and Executive Session, and January 17, 2018 were accepted as written.

Ms. Grace would like all the reports for the District booklet by March 1, 2018 so the booklet can go to the printer for production, time being of the essence.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The following warrants were approved for payment:

PR18-28	25,567.60
PR18-29	14,768.21
PR18-30	17,557.74
PR18-31	13,378.47
PR18-32	28,291.58
PR18-33	12,398.78
AP18-09	34,227.29
AP18-10	11,077.91
AP18-11	291,921.53
AP18-12	241,646.82
WD18-07	15,363.26
WD18-08	5,368.91

Mr. Pirrone gave an update of the FY2018 budget and reported that the District is at or close to budget, and in good shape with FY2018 Articles. He feels Article 5 will be all right with respect to District salaries. Expenditures are on target. With regard to District revenue, ambulance receipts has picked up and tax receipts are also coming in as anticipated.

WATER COMMISSIONERS:

Chairman of the Water Commissioners Arne Ojala suggested that the District well should be tested – hasn't been tested in a number of years. He suggested using Envirotech and indicated the cost would run about \$1000. The Water Commissioners were contacted by West Barnstable resident Sue Phelan for comments regarding Eversource's use of pesticides for vegetation management. A series of public hearings are scheduled – March 1 in Sandwich, and March 6 in Chatham. The Water Commissioners are also concerned about the impact on the integrity of the District's potential water source. The use of these pesticides can have unintended consequences and affect land use (cranberry bogs) and domestic wells, as well as the potential for devaluing property values. The Water Commissioners plan to craft a letter to Eversource outlining their concerns.

The Water Commissioners felt \$1250 in their FY2019 budget would be sufficient for their needs.

FY2019 PROPOSED BUDGET:

The following changes were made in the proposed 2019 budget request:

Change OPEB from \$60,000 to \$54,000

Addition of Article 15 – truck tires - \$4500

Addition of Article 16 – new house - \$6500

Addition of \$1000 to Water Commission operations, to fund well testing

Mr. Northcross motioned, Ms. LaPine seconded, and it was unanimously voted to approve the proposed FY2019 budget as revised and presented with changes noted on February 21, 2018.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

New Engine – Needs change of springs – not like demo. Extra expenses include thermal imaging camera, intake valve, mounting hardware.

New Ambulance – Graphics being installed, been inspected should arrive by next Friday. Specialized training with staff and stretcher company will be scheduled.

Old Ambulance – Barnstable Fire Department may buy old ambulance, may get \$10k for it. Has been maintained well, mechanic Ryan Smith knows truck inside and out.

Old Engine – Minimum Auction bid of \$5500. Seal, etc. will be removed from truck if not sold to another Fire Department.

Career Firefighter Hiring Process – Originally had 14 applicants, 4 have withdrawn, narrowed down to five candidates – all well qualified, good candidates.

Ambulance Billing & Write-offs – Two write-offs, 2 transferred to collection.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Grace, District Clerk
District Clerk

