

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

PRESENT: Prudential Committee members Edward Smith, Stuart Schulman, Van Northcross, Deputy Fire Chief Dave cbbbbbPaananen, District Treasurer Ray Prone, and District Clerk Elaine Grace.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

CLERK’S REPORT:

The minutes of the August 15, 2018 Prudential Committee meeting were accepted as written, with one correction.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

The following warrants were approved for payment:

AP 19-06	2,991.27
AP 19-07	24,560.82
AP 19-08	15,029.23
PR 19-06	13,696.18
PR 19-07	20,649.16
PR 19-08	12,713.15
PR 19-09	23,439.89
PR 19-10	26,884.25
PR 19-11	13,128.85

Mr. Pirrone advised that FY2019 is trending well so far. The District is ahead on tax revenue. Ambulance revenue is at 8% over last year’s revenue. FY2018 account reconciliation is still in progress. The auditors are reviewing FY2018. Mr. Pirrone will be in touch with the Director of Assessing to schedule a date for the Classification Hearing in November.

Ambulance Transports

Deputy Chief Dave Paananen advised the District has received \$22,000 in ambulance revenue. Ambulance transports were very high in August – 44 runs.

UNION CONTRACT AMENDMENT/BUYOUT

The Union has accepted the terms of Lt. Clough’s retirement.

GENERATIONAL MISMATCH DISCUSSION

Deputy Chief Paananen and the Prudential Committee engaged in discussion about Ashley Parry’s thesis. The new generation of firefighters is more engaged in technology and computer skills than in the use of hand tools such as chainsaws, etc. There is a learning curve and a need to incorporate learning various mechanical skills into the on-the-job training.

FIRE CHIEF’S ANNUAL REVIEW

The Chief’s review was continued to the October meeting, when the Chief will be present.

FIRE CHIEF’S REPORT:

Career Firefighter Job Posting:

The career firefighter position has been re-posted Cape-wide in the hopes there might be some hidden talent out there. We have been hiring from within for awhile and currently there is no certified paramedic on staff. The position was originally posted in-house and alumni as a day shift; now it is a 24 hour shift.

Emergency Incident Review

The Tumbleweed Quilts building on Route 6A experienced a burning ballast which caused some damage to stock and material in the building. The occupants of the building were able to put out the fire with a fire extinguisher before the Fire Department arrived on scene. The response time was 4 minutes and 48 seconds and the Department met the Standards of Cover.

Community Events

Attendance at the Fire Department's venue during the Village Festival was poor this year. The Chief has written an After Action report discussing the Festival and will provide the Prudential Committee with a copy.

Engine 294 Status:

The engine is still in Connecticut – there is excessive bounce between the cab and the frame. The problem still exists after adjusting the throttle. There seems to be a lack of ownership on the part of the manufacturer to repair the problem. Mr. Schulman inquired if they would provide a loaner until the problem is resolved. Mr. Northcross asked if the Lemon Law applies to apparatus. The ladder truck (297) was in Brockton to have the rear springs repaired. There were also some corrosion issues. It will be back on September 21, 2018. The air trailer is experiencing starter problems – new batteries were installed, but did not correct the problem. Apparently a year and a half ago, there was a recall regarding this problem but the Department was not notified. The air trailer needs a new starter relay – the vendor Scott will fix.

The Department has received 6 SCVA's from Mendon Fire, and 12 from Hyannis Fire, plus 50 face masks – perfect to use for training.

Building Maintenance/Repairs:

The filters on the diesel exhaust fans have been replaced – cost is about \$4000 – a future replacement schedule will be developed.

Other:

The Department did not receive an AFG grant again this year. The Deputy spoke with David Parr at FEMA and we scored well with peer review - however, they ran out of funding. There are so many applications, but there is not enough funding. The Chief and the Deputy will tweak the application, add the appropriate buzz words, and submit again.

There was discussion about testing the water from the spring on Willow Street – not sure who owns the land where the spring is located. The Deputy will look into it.

The Fire Department has a new high school intern – the program has been revamped and Colin Lane will be in the station Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the mornings, and Tuesday and Thursday in the afternoons.

The Sheriff's Dispatch Department is experiencing problems relating to staff – they have lost 3 people in the last 90 days, and may lose one more. They are having difficulty covering shifts, morale is low. A rate increase is inevitable, but the numbers they are throwing around are too low. West Barnstable needs hard numbers to make decisions about dispatching.

The Department received a nice thank you letter from John Cox, Cape Cod Community College President, for their Participation, along with Hyannis Fire, in the Airport Disaster Drill held on September 5th.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Grace, District Clerk