

WEST BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 20, 2017
REGULAR MINUTES

Present: Prudential Committee members Ed Smith, Van Northcross, and Chrystal LaPine; District Treasurer Ray Pirrone; Chief Joe Maruca; Deputy Chief Dave Paananen; District Clerk Elaine Grace.

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Clerk's Report:

The November 15, 2017 Regular meeting minutes were not ready for distribution and approval. They will be available at the January 17, 2018 meeting.

The Clerk has spoken with Fred Clausen regarding the use of the West Parish Meetinghouse for the West Barnstable Fire District Annual Meeting on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 and was advised that they would be happy to have us hold our meeting in the meetinghouse. Mr. Clausen will provide the Clerk with a facility use application.

The Clerk also provided a draft of the legal notice for the Cape Cod Times announcing the Annual Meeting for review. It will be advertised at the end of January.

The Clerk will provide the Town Clerk with a copy of the Election and Meeting time line to ensure we meet the proper election deadlines.

The Clerk provided an Election & Annual Meeting Timeline for discussion and review. It was agreed that Annual Reports and other material for the district annual report should be ready by March 1, 2018 so that the booklet can be printed in a timely manner.

Treasurer's Report:

The following warrants were approved for payment:

PR 18-21	13,156.78
PR 18-22	15,347.95
PR 18-23	71,437.87
PR 18-24	15,605.59
PR 18-25	14,337.69
AP 18-07	25,243.69
AP 18-08	60,614.73
WD18-05	7,133.04
WD18-06	6,834.78

Treasurer Ray Pirrone advised that the Auditors are waiting for more information regarding the discrepancy with free cash. He has also been in touch with Jared at the DOR and is awaiting a decision from him on the correct amount of free cash that will be available.

Mr. Pirrone advised the District is ahead on tax collection, and ambulance revenue has increased so it seems that we will meet the amount budgeted for FY2018. The budget is in good shape overall, with the exception of District salaries for the Treasurer and Accountant.

Accountant Position:

Chief Maruca advised that the position has been posted and interviews have already been started.

The Chief has selected six possible applicants, and four have been interviewed. Most are retired professionals, some from Cape Cod, and they are looking for part-time employment to stay busy.

He advised it was a good group, immensely qualified, and he is confident that a qualified applicant will be chosen by the January 17, 2018 meeting.

Career Firefighter Position:

The career firefighter position has been posted and is open to all current or former West Barnstable Fire Department staff. The position has not been advertised to the general public as of now. The Chief will be accepting cover letters and resumes through the end of the year. A review of applications will begin around January 3, 2018.

Legal Settlement:

A settlement has been reached between the Fire Department and Chris Greim. It has not been determined yet if Mr. Greim intends to retire or seek employment elsewhere.

2018 Meeting Schedule:

The Chief proposed a 2018 Prudential Committee meeting schedule which alternates monthly meeting times. Meetings will alternate a 4 PM time and a 7 PM time, on a trial basis.

Mr. Northcross motioned, Ms. LaPine seconded, and it was unanimously voted to adopt the proposed schedule on a trial basis.

District Retirement Health Insurance Policies:

The Chief advised the District has no formal policy, other than what appears in the By-laws regarding Retiree Health Insurance. He outlined a proposal for review by the Prudential Committee and which will also be reviewed by legal counsel Chuck Sabatt. He noted that retiree health insurance is not subject to collective bargaining. Further discussion will take place at the January 17, 2018 meeting.

Fire Chief's Report:

Ambulance Billing & Write-offs: Revenue has increased.

Emergency Call Activity: Slow, nothing unusual. There were only 11 transports in December.

Staff Changes: Mike D. has been hired by Dennis Fire. He was with the department for three years.

Water Filtration System: A new system was installed by Culligan which incorporate filtration and water softener. It will be used for washing vehicles as well as for potable water use by staff.

New Apparatus Schedule: The ambulances is anticipated to arrive in mid February; the engine in mid January. The video of the new engine will be broadcast at the station on January 4, 2018 at 4 PM.

Old Apparatus Auctions: Engine auction will close on February 15, 2018; the ambulance auction will end on March 15, 2018. The advertisement looks good; links have been sent to anyone interested and posted on Facebook. 1500 have looked at the posting.

Cistern Repair: The access to the water cistern by the 1717 meetinghouse was struck by a vehicle – no one knows who, when, or how. An estimate for repair was received from Robert Our Company in the amount of \$4,000. It was repaired by Wbfd staff (Keith Stranger, Bill Murray and Deputy Panaanen) with the help of the Barnstable DPW for about \$500. Discussion ensued about the age of the tank, and its construction and whether it should be replaced. The Chief advised the cost to replace with a fiberglass and concrete tank would run between \$60,000 - \$100,000.

The Chief advised he has received a quote to replace carpeting on the stairs to the second floor in the amount of \$1800.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Grace, District Clerk