

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, September 10, 2025

PRESENT: Carlton B. Crocker, David Lawler, John Lacoste Prudential Committee; Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer; Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer; Patrick Hill, Fire Chief; Michael Rogers, Deputy Fire Chief; Craig Crocker Water Superintendent

Public Attendance: None

The meeting convened at 6:01 PM.

Public Comment: None.

John Lacoste made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2025 meeting as written. Carlton Crocker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Patrick Hill: Chief Hill provided an overview of where the fire department is with their budget as we move towards the end of the first quarter and a copy of the minutes from the Fire Commissioners' meeting on July 21st. There are 4 firefighters out right now so overtime is over budget, but the overall budget is on track.

Recent personnel changes include two new Firefighters, one Dispatcher, and a Custodial Maintenance Technician. All have started and are moving through the training process.

The Chief reported that he has been working with Attorney Doug Murphy on the above ground storage tank project. He anticipates finalizing the RFP to be released to potential vendors later this month.

There was a discussion of the informal Site Plan Review for the town's Centerville Cove 40B development, which consists of a three-story apartment building with 36 units and 19 multi-bedroom townhouses off Great Marsh Road and Phinney's Lane. The project is in the very early stages, but he and Craig were able to provide input from the fire and water department standpoints. Chief Hill has requested copies of the traffic study be provided to him via email. He will share them with the Board once he receives them.

The hovercraft, which was previously deemed surplus, has been listed for sale on GOV Deals. It has not been used for approximately 12 years. Deputy Rogers mentioned that the department has approximately 40 one-way radios that are obsolete and no longer used as department pagers. He has done some research, and they range between \$50 and \$100 each.

John Lacoste made a motion to declare the radios surplus and authorized the department to sell them as is. Carlton Crocker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Hill shared the success of using GOV Deals recently to facilitate the auction of two surplus vehicles. The proceeds were greater than what would have been offered had they been traded at the dealership. The account that the district has is available for use by the water department for any surplus items they would like to dispose of.

Craig Crocker: Craig distributed a copy of the most recent pumpage report which showed a significant increase in August compared to previous years. He included the pumping data from Summer 2020 during Covid and Summer 2022 for comparison.

Craig will design the water main for the Centerville Cove Project once he receives a more detailed design form following the hearing scheduled for October 8th. He expects to hear from their engineer shortly thereafter.

Molly Stevens: Molly went over the appropriation and expenditures reports for each department for FY 2025. She noted that the water surplus will be lower than last year, but it was expected due to the tight budget. All departments used more of their budgets than the previous year, which translates to less free cash. Molly will have a better sense of what the free cash might look like once she is further along in closing out FY 2025.

Molly briefly touched on a grant application that Craig has been working on and proposed changes to who is signing which parts of the agreement. In the past, the Treasurer signed as the bank signatory, and it should remain that way.

The first PFAS settlement payment was received. The state has issued guidelines allowing us to put the funds into a special revenue fund to be appropriated as opposed to it going to miscellaneous general revenue. Molly will reach out to the Director of Accounts for clarification about whether it can be done as a regular meeting item and the wording of the article.

Molly and Cristin attended the Mass Collectors and Treasurers Association school in August at UMass Amherst. Cristin completed track one to head towards certification. Molly has begun a certificate program in local government and leadership management through Suffolk University and the Mass Municipal Association.

With the two new ambulances scheduled to arrive in the coming weeks, Molly completed the BAN sale this morning and received an interest rate below 4% from Oppenheimer for the authorized borrowing amount of \$751,000.00. With the additional funds voted in 2025, we are still short by \$9,720.20. The Board discussed various sources for the funds.

David Lawler made a motion to take \$9,720.20 from the Covid Relief Fund citing that if not for Covid, we would already have the ambulances and would not have incurred the additional \$9,720.20 in expenses. John Lacoste seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lastly, Molly discussed the RFP through Cape Light Compact for a new streetlight operation and maintenance contract. Our contract with Pine Ridge was up on June 30th and with the lack of language in the contracts to extend, they did a new RFP. Molly passed out a copy of Arden

Engineering's proposal as they came in with the lowest overall cost. The towns that currently use Arden had very positive feedback.

David Lawler made a motion to move forward with Arden Engineering Construction LLC with respect to their proposal dated August 6, 2025 with Cape Light Compact regarding the RFP for municipal outdoor lighting operations and maintenance and that we authorize Doug Murphy to negotiate the final points of the contract. John Lacoste seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting: October 8, 2025 6:00 PM

Public Comment: None

John Lacoste made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 PM.


Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer