

# CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

## MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2024**

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

The meeting convened at 5:32 PM.

**Public Comment:** None.

**David Lawler made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2024 meeting as written. John Lacoste seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Craig Crocker:** Craig passed out the current pumpage report which runs through the end of October. Usage has been higher normal due to the dry weather, with projections expected to match 2022 levels by year end.

Craig is exploring options for migrating to a different radio frequency and reprogramming the existing radio units. There was a discussion of timing and cost associated with securing our own primary frequency. Craig will keep everyone informed.

**David Lawler:** David shared that negotiations with Avangrid are on-going and that nothing has been agreed upon yet. The next meeting is this evening at 6:30 PM. Avangrid has indicated that they would be amenable to funding an independent thermal impact study by an engineer of our choosing. Craig confirmed that the proposed Memorandum of Understanding has been published on the water department's website.

**Molly Stevens:** Molly is starting to put together a comprehensive budget calendar to be used going forward. She would like to set up meetings beginning this month to discuss the fiscal 2026 budget. Her goal is to have uniformity and collaboration between the three areas.

There was a discussion about replacing the lights in the parking lot. Chief Eldridge has been looking into having the poles replaced or light fixtures that mount on the existing poles. He will work with John Lacoste on an economical way to get them replaced.

**Byron Eldridge:** Chief Eldridge introduced the new Deputy Chief, Mike Rogers. Deputy Rogers started on Monday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and will be taking on several projects in the coming months.

The Chief handed out a copy of the minutes of the October 21, 2024 Fire Commissioners' Meeting. He noted that the new Fire Prevention vehicle was put into service last Thursday and the contract has been signed for two new ambulances.

Chief Eldridge requested a vote on the disposal of surplus vehicles.

**David Lawler made a motion that the 2002 hovercraft and two 2008 Chevy pickup trucks be sold, traded, or disposed of at the discretion of the Chief and Deputy Chief. John Lacoste seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

Lastly, four firefighters took and passed the Captain's Promotional Exam last month; All are on the new list. The open Lieutenant's position created by Deputy Rogers' promotion will be filled at the next Fire Commissioners' Meeting. We have two candidates on the list for that position.

**Patrick Hill:** Deputy Chief Hill briefly discussed a meeting they had via Zoom with Avangrid. They fully support external training through the Fire Academy for our firefighters. Deputy Hill and Deputy Rogers will do research and David Lawler will make sure it is addressed in the MOU.

**Next Meeting: December 11, 2024 at 6:00pm.**

**Public Comment:** None

**Carlton Crocker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:08 PM.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cristin Van Buren". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

**Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer**