

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2015

Page 1 of 1

PRESENT: Carlton B. Crocker, and John A. Lacoste, Prudential Committee; Michael Winn, Fire Chief; Craig Crocker, Water Superintendent; Judith Sprague, Clerk/Treasurer.

Also Present: Byron Eldridge, Deputy Chief and Jeff Rudziak, Town of Barnstable Assessor

The meeting convened at 6:12 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Tax Classification: Jeff Rudziak presented the tax levy handout and told everyone to remove pages 7-10 as that is not needed. The following motion was made by John Lacoste after the discussion on the tax rate.

That we support a residential factor of 1 and that we do not adopt any residential exemptions or any commercial exemptions for the upcoming year.

Carlton Crocker seconded the motion and it was a unanimous vote.

Craig Crocker: Craig Crocker asked about two streetlights on the Water Dept. property that runs along the side street. He said they never got converted over to the LED lights and wanted to know why. They were not on our list of lights given to us by NStar and we are guessing that they are considered private lights. A discussion ensued about the issues of the streetlights that Judy Sprague has been dealing with and trying to get these resolved as soon as possible. The Prudential Committee decided that we would have Siemens install a light at Patriots Way and the two by the Water Department at whatever cost to the District, since the actual amount, per light, is not known at this time.

Craig said he reviewed the bids for the electrical in the new pump house project and there was a bit of a difference between them. He chose the lowest bidder at \$79,000. He went to a Department of Environmental Protection meeting to introduce the new commissioner. Craig passed out the water pumpage for the year through October and pointed out that it is way above the average. There has been over one billion gallons used so far.

Chief Winn: The chief passed out a photo of the FEMA generator that was given to us from the federal government. Dave Scott checked it out and ran it to see how it worked. Breaker 316, the old Brush Breaker, is over forty seven years old and needs to be taken out of service. The chief asked the Prudential Committee to declare it surplus. He feels it is not even worth trying to sell to anyone because of the liability that goes with its age so the District should just sell it for scrap. The chief spoke to Doug Murphy about a standard form for Freedom of Information Requests. Judy Sprague also informed the Board that the Public Records Law is being

reviewed and possibly changed for the first time in over forty years. It may change to a 60 day response time and a limit on the hourly rates that can be charged with the first two hours to not have any charge for time spent on the request. Judy Sprague and the chief will work on a form together. The Medicare/Mass Health reimbursement program is being done again this year. Kathleen, Judy and the other ladies have done a lot of work getting the information needed and it looks like we will be getting around \$57,000 this year. Comstar came down for a meeting to discuss our collection and write off policy. It was decided, after speaking with the auditor and Comstar, that we will write off all the old unpaid ambulance bills from eighteen months old and beyond. A new letter was drafted for anyone who does not pay their bill within the 90 day limit. It now states that they “will” be sent to collection instead of “may.” Captain Burchell has replaced Captain Rhude on the Boat Group and has asked that the two 13’ Whalers be kept and to repower one, then purchase a 14’ inflatable as approved at the Annual District Meeting. On Monday, November 16th, the department offered a free bladder cancer screening for the firefighters at a cost of less than \$600. Thirty four of the fifty two firefighters took the test, approximately 66%.

Judy Sprague: Judy told the Prudential Committee that the chief needed them to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Local 2346 Health Stipend. Judy has been working with John Lacoste and Richard O’Hearn to try and clean up any problems we are still having with the streetlights but hasn’t had much success so far. She told them about the meeting that she and Melissa attended that day on the Affordable Care Act and the changes that are going to be effective on January 1, 2016 plus the Cadillac Tax that is still under debate for 2018.

Minutes: The minutes were postponed until the December meeting since Carlton Crocker was not present for the October meeting and David Lawler was not present at this meeting.

Next Meeting: A tentative date was set for Wednesday, December 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

Carlton B. Crocker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. John A. Lacoste seconded the motion. It was a unanimous vote.

Judith C. Sprague, Clerk/Treasurer