

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2023

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PRESENT: Carlton B. Crocker, John Lacoste, David Lawler, Prudential Committee; Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer; Alexandra Jackson, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer, Michael Winn, Fire Chief

Also Present: Byron Eldridge, Deputy

The meeting convened at 6:05 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

David Lawler made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2023 meeting as printed, John Lacoste seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Winn: Chief Winn stated he has been working closely with the Prudential Office on end of the year close out, which is an ongoing daily process. Part of that is working closely with Molly on a process for moving forward into the new budget. Jessica Mosher, Abigale Corey and Casey White are in their second week of orientation and appear to be outstanding candidates. Chief Winn announced the retirement of Lieutenant Gordon Williams in the first week of September. Lastly, Chief Winn wanted to put on the radar that they are planning a recognition night on October 16 and when it is firmed up an email invite will go out.

Deputy Eldridge: Deputy Eldridge provided updates, stating the department has been very busy with community events, which will continue through the summer and fall. Deputy Eldridge also provided updates on the struggle with vehicles for the department, citing repairs and maintenance issues as well as delays in receiving the vehicles we have on order. Deputy Eldridge stated the ambulance that was ordered over two years ago is finally supposed arrive on August 21 to the dealer and within a week or two should be fully outfitted. Mechanic Rich Randall has been doing a great job keeping things going, which is a daily challenge. Deputy Eldridge announced they have been working on the air conditioning units at Stations two and three. There was some trouble obtaining a company to service them, but they are now up and running for the summer and fall, with hopes of replacing the systems that are not repairable. Deputy Eldridge also stated that there are some issues with concrete blocks and some minor roof repairs that they hope to have addressed in the near future. Finally, Deputy Eldridge mentioned they are also waiting on

three new pickup trucks which also are taking much longer to arrive than anticipated. There was a short discussion about UPS striking and interrupting the supply chain further.

Molly Stevens: Molly stated that we are making our way through the end of year items, and thanked the other departments for help during her first year. Molly also stated that the Prudential Office had completed the first payroll of the new fiscal year which is always more time consuming. Molly talked about her plans to work with her peers to revise the budget process for the future. Molly discussed a new investment account she opened with Mass Municipal Depository Trust, or MMDT, which is yielding a much higher rate than banks. Molly explained the State Auditor's department oversees MMDT and the investments are more liquid than the CD's we have been utilizing, we can invest as much or as little and pull out the money whenever we need to use it. Chairman Crocker asked how much we initially put into the MMDT and Molly answered that she invested \$1.5 million to start, in order to watch the market and see how we benefit. Molly explained the process used by MMDT of very short-term investments and that the fund has never lost any money. Mr. Lawler asked if MMDT was insured and bonded and Molly answered that they are not a bank and therefore not FDIC insured, this is an investment that we will need to monitor.

Craig Crocker was unable to attend because his meeting was scheduled for the same time.

There was a brief discussion about a request from Eversource. Chairman Crocker introduced the request for an easement the District received from Eversource on Old Stage Road through the water tower property. Chief Winn said that he had been contacted by Eversource and directed them to Craig Crocker. Carlton Crocker stated this is a massive project involving many poles and digging on Old Stage Road through the intersection. Chief Winn stated that Eversource was doing upgrades, nothing to do with the wind farm project.

There was also a brief discussion about the windmills, which there were no official updates from David Lawler.

Next meeting: September 6, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Public Comment: None

Carlton Crocker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. John Lacoste seconded the motion. It was a unanimous vote.

Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer