

Minutes of Prudential Committee Meeting  
April 6, 2015

Present: David Zamojski, Chairman, Prudential Committee  
Rich Kuklewicz, Prudential Committee Member  
Jay DiPucchio, Prudential Committee Member  
Bob Escott, Fire Chief  
Eileen Tela, District Accountant  
David Thompson, Finance Committee  
Steve Constantine, Finance Committee

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes accepted – March 2, 2015 minutes were approved.

FY2016 Budgets - David Thompson asked for clarification of the percentage of FY16 increases in salaries for firefighters. It was explained that per their contract, the cost of living raise is 3% for FY16 plus an additional 1% for the EMT certification, for a total of 4% for all firefighters.

Warrant and Motions for the annual meeting were reviewed. Eileen noted that there will be 53 weeks in the upcoming year, so salaries were adjusted for the additional week. Bob reduced the dollar amount for the fire station fire alarm system to \$12,500. Eileen handed out worksheet detailing budget and article requests for the past 5 years to note the impact on taxation increases for those years. It was decided to lower the request to stabilization for future fire vehicle to \$30,000. Funding of other articles were slightly changed.

Eileen noted that the Special Legislation that we requested still has a ways to go to be finalized. Her contact at Representative Kulik's office stated that there will be a hearing on the request at some future time.

Chief's Report

Physical Fitness Standards – Bob noted that the call force would like to see more task related standards, rather than general fitness standards. Discussion followed.

New Probationary Firefighter – Geoffrey Ellis just started employment, and will attend the Fire Academy in June.

Ambulance – Regular gas instead of diesel fuel was accidentally put into the ambulance. Repairs to the ambulance were costly. It is possible that there will be some reimbursement through our insurance. Ways to prevent this again were discussed. It was noted as a verbal discussion in employee's record.

FY15 budget – Will possibly be about \$5,000 in the red for the Fire Department. We would have been in better shape if we did not have to deal with the probationary firefighter issue.

Ambulance Collections and Receivables - March's billings were about \$10,000 and collections were about \$4,800. Five accounts are over six months old. They were reviewed individually and it was decided write off one and try to collect the other four.

111F Benefits – If call firefighter is injured, they would go out on firefighter's salary. After discussion it was decided to increase the injury reimbursement to the District from \$500/week to \$750/week, costing an additional \$2,230/year for this additional insurance.

OPEB liability was discussed along with other retirement accruals.

### Accountant's Report

Eileen explained the three USDA loans that we are looking to refinance, the total of which is \$457,000. We are looking to reduce the life of the loans as well as the interest rate, and would like us to request bids for \$450,000. She calculated that the interest savings would be approximately \$122,000 if we could refinance at 3.8%. Jay made motion to vote to refinance these three USDA loans. David seconded. All in favor.

Federal Drug Subsidy – We just received a check from the Hampshire Group Insurance Trust for \$5,594 for the latest subsidy for October 2013 through June 2014. One more smaller check will be send to us before this program ends.

Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21.

Meeting adjourned at 7.00p.m.