

Minutes of Prudential Committee Meeting
June 1, 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 5:00 p.m.

Minutes accepted – May 4, 2015 minutes were approved.

Invoice warrants – were reviewed and signed by the Prudential Committee.

Chief's Report

New Firefighter – Geoff Ellis will start the Fire Academy July 13. He passed the PAT and went to orientation at the Academy recently.

Military Leave - Captain Todd Brunelle received his orders and was deployed to Westover Base. He will return home almost every evening and would like to continue working at the fire station on his days off at Westover. Of about 800 hours the next several months, he should be able to continue working about 480 hours, which would be normally be a 24-hour shift per wk. Fatigue was discussed, but the Chief had a discussion with him about this and Todd did not think that this would be an issue. Prudential Committee agreed to let him continue to work as he is able to.

Leave – Firefighter Hartnett was on vacation with family and one member had a serious medical issue. Union contract is not clear on exactly how time off should be charged – sick, vacation, personal, or comp. After discussion it was decided that the Chief would work out the two 24-hour shifts in question on how to charge the time off.

Cell phone – a Firefighter on a river rescue was in the water and accidentally submerged his new two week old cell phone, which was ruined. No insurance on the phone. Union contract does not mention cell phones. After discussion, it was decided not to reimburse Firefighter, but it most likely will be an issue during the next contract negotiation.

Second Ambulance – Bob brought up issue of second ambulance. There have been two ambulances recently in surplus. Rich thinks it is a little early to support two ambulances at this time, but is more likely to support replacing current 2001 ambulance. Discussion followed. Accountant noted that we will not have much ambulance surplus resulting from this current year and next year's budget has increased. After discussion, it was

decided to support the purchase of an ambulance from municipal surplus to be used as a backup, but not to fully equip a second one at this time.

FY15 budget – Bob now thinks the Fire budget will be about \$1,000 in the red by year-end. It was mentioned that there is a need to look into the overtime issue and a possible increase in staffing in the future since calls have increased. There are many factors to be considered in this issue.

Capital Spending plan – Plan put together by the Chief was reviewed, with repaving of the driveway and the ladder truck being the most pressing issues.

The driveway could cost as much as \$60,000 and a concrete apron in front of the garage should prevent the dip that is now present from the heavy fire trucks exiting the garage. Bob will obtain a few preliminary estimates over the next few months and is working with a representative from the COG to put together specifications for the repaving.

The ladder truck will be 30 years old in 2019. Rich mentioned a possible collaborative purchase with cost-sharing with other towns that use it. Jay noted that the ladder truck is not only used in four story buildings, but also an important piece of equipment necessary to reach many other fires.

Accountant's Report

FY15 General Government budget – Line items were reviewed in the current FY15 budget. Eileen noted that she expects there will be a surplus of approximately \$55,000 at year end.

Meeting notices – will now be posted on the Fire Department website. Annual budgets will also be posted.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.
(Tuesday rather than Monday, and 5:00 rather than 5:30)

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.