

Minutes of Prudential Committee Meeting
August 4, 2015

Present: David Zamojski, Chairman, Prudential Committee
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 5:06 p.m.

Minutes accepted – June 30, 2015 minutes were approved.

Invoice warrants – were reviewed and signed by David and Jay.

Chief's Report

Driveway – A representative from Lane Construction looked the Fire Department's driveway and thinks that we need a good sub-base and the right thickness of blacktop. He thought that concrete may not be a good way to go. Bob noted that he would like to go to the COG to have them submit a proposal for bids, and he suggested a clerk of the works when we do have this project done.

Age 65 for call force – A call force member turns 65 this year and would like to remain on force. Prudential Committee agrees that we need to go with current rule – that is a mandatory retirement age of 65. The number of call force members are down now, but it seems to be a universal problem.

Run numbers – Bob handed out a run report for June and July, so far about 700 calls year- to- date.

Bucket truck – Fire alarm system is in place, and we can now dispose of our 1999 bucket truck. Bob would like to offer it to town departments first, then the general public. Four town department are now interested in it. Appraisal is \$21,500. Eileen will check on laws for disposing of surplus property for next meeting.

Deputy Chief - Bob calculates that the Deputy position has saved us approximately \$41,000 in overtime during the past fiscal year.

FY2015 budgets were reviewed. Fire Department budget closed with a favorable variance. July ambulance collections were \$2,900.

Mask fit – Bob has been reviewing safety programs and fire masks should be tested annually for fit. Equipment to test is \$10,000 and he would like to lease to purchase.

After discussion, Bob will check to see if other towns are interested in a collaborative purchase and he will also see if a fire tech company can come in and test our masks.

Meeting for area towns to discuss Fire Department resources – Next meeting is August 12.

Accountant's Report

FY2015 General Govt. budget was reviewed.

Eileen noted that we had a bid opening on July 9th for our USDA loan refinancing. Low bidder was Greenfield Co-operative Bank with 3.01% interest. We will be refinancing \$450,000 with them shortly.

Accountant's contract – Eileen questioned our current bereavement leave policy relating to an in-law. She recently took about 2 days for bereavement. Prudential Committee approved her time off for this. Accountant's position follows Water Department's policy. Water Dept will be revising their policy at their next meeting, and she will bring the revised policy to our next meeting along with her contract to be signed.

Military leave - Town's policy and state policy was handed out, along with Deerfield's policy. Our union contract does not specify how much time is given for military leave, but does reference the District's policy, which is not clear.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday September 9, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.
(Wednesday rather than Monday, and 5:00 rather than 5:30)

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.