

Minutes of Prudential Committee Meeting
September 9, 2015

Present: Richard Kuklewicz, Prudential Committee
Jay DiPucchio, Prudential Committee Member
Bob Escott, Fire Chief
Eileen Tela, District Accountant
Steve Constantine, Finance Committee

Meeting called to order at 5:04 p.m.

Chairman David Zamojski is unable to attend the meeting.

August 4 minutes – approval will be on hold until next meeting, due to David's absence.

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

Ambulance long-term issue will be tabled until the next meeting.

Chief's Report

Bucket truck – has been taken off the road and Bob would like to move forward in disposing of it. Rich made motion to declare this 1999 Ford surplus. Jay seconded. All in favor. Eileen noted that because it has a value over \$10,000 it has to go out to bid or a public auction. Bob will check with the COG to see if we can sell it to a town department if their bid comes close to a higher public bid.

Brush truck – has been taken off the road also and since it was originally a government surplus vehicle it must be returned to them.

Second ambulance – Bob would like to purchase a second used ambulance to be used as a backup when our current one is out of service, and also citing a need when there are duplicate medical calls. Discussion followed about purchasing one from surplus. Jay made a motion to authorize Chief to acquire an ambulance from surplus if he finds one, under Article 8 of our past annual meeting.

Donation of old equipment - Randolph Vermont Fire Station burned and they lost all of their equipment. We have a few sets of turnout gear over 10 years old and items such as old brush rakes not being used by us. Bob would like to donate them to Randolph Fire. Prudential Committee approves this.

Probationary Firefighter – Geoffrey Ellis will be graduating from the Fire Academy on September 18. He is doing very well – in the top 10% of his class.

Emergency Response Transportation Plan - Bob noted that in the event of a disaster, FRTA (Franklin Regional Transportation Authority) may not be able to provide enough drivers for their buses for mutual aid relief purposes . The plan is for our firefighters to serve as backup drivers if their drivers are not all available. They would need some training from FRTA. Bob did note that the insurance co. with the FRTA and our own insurance agency are both okay with this plan and our personnel would be covered. We need to sign an agreement with FRTA to do this. Jay made motion to authorize the agreement between the District and the FRTA. Rich seconded. All in favor.

Accountant's Report

Accountant's contract – Water Commissioners revised the wording of bereavement leave policy and Prudential Committee approved this for the Accountant's position. Her contract was signed with this revision.

Steve left at this time.

Fire Fees schedule – Eileen handed out a schedule summarizing fire fees for the past three years, per our auditors' recommendation

Retired Fire Boxes – Jay made motion to vote up to 75 old fire alarm boxes to be declared surplus along with related equipment. They will be given to the fire association who will sell them and purchase a piece of equipment for the Fire Department. Rich seconded. All in favor.

Military leave – We don't seem to have a written policy on this. Town of Montague and Deerfield have a 10 day policy. After discussion it was thought that we should review guidelines from surrounding communities to see what the norm is and allow for flexibility within the schedule. Rich mentioned that we should talk with the association before making any policy changes.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday October 6, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. (Later rescheduled to Tuesday October 13)

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.