

Minutes of Prudential Committee & Finance Committee Meeting
August 6, 2018

Present: David Zamojski, Chairman, Prudential Committee
John Greene, Prudential Committee
John Zellmann, Fire Chief
Eileen Tela, District Accountant
Alyson Chabot, Finance Committee
Steve Constantine, Finance Committee
David Thompson, Finance Committee
Jason Henske, Minuteman Trucks
Tom Whitmer, Pierce Financial Solutions

Meeting called to order at 5:17 p.m.

Minutes were approved for the August 6th meeting.

Invoice warrants were reviewed and signed.

Military Policy was finalized. Chief noted that he signs off on military time off and Prudential Committee shouldn't also have to approve. Prudential Committee agreed.

Injured call force member is back to work after passing physical.

Coastal Medical Billing – Coastal received a Medicare payment for a deceased patient and there is still a balance due of \$250. No estate. Chief recommends we write this off. Prudential Committee agrees.

Ladder truck - Chief explained that he would like to see a constant line item in the budget for vehicle replacements.

Jason from Minuteman explained that they currently have 4 Pierce ladder trucks that are stock units. These are called 90th percentile trucks, meaning they include 90% of options of custom orders. Prices on these stock demo vehicles range from \$920,000 to \$950,000, saving about \$100,000 to customers. Jason brought one to our fire station recently and the firefighters noted it was a great truck. They are new vehicles, some are 2017 models and they have about 3,500 miles on them. Our current ladder truck is only worth the scrap value of about \$3,000 because of the age of the vehicle

Tom from Pierce Financial Solutions spoke about lease-to-purchase financing agreements that are offered through PNC Bank. Various options are available for financing. Much discussion followed.

Jason and Tom left at this time. It was decided to approach our voters with a Special District Meeting about the ladder truck situation. We have \$160,000 in the Stabilization Fund to put as a down payment. It was decided to have a public informational meeting first on September 5 at

the Safety Complex at 6:30 p.m. with a Special District Meeting on September 26, 2018 at 7:00 at the Turners Falls High School Theater.

Run Report – We had 111 calls for July, of which 64 were EMS calls including 15 transports.

Call force – Chief has four new applications for the call force and he will be interviewing three of these applicants shortly.

Southworth Paper Co. – Building has no power or gas due to non-payment and sprinkler system is not working. No one is in the building and the Chief considers it an abandoned building. He brought the Fire Marshall through it recently. Orders to make certain repairs on building have not been followed and legal proceedings need to be started with an order to cease and desist. He has been updating the Town's Selectboard about this issue.

META Grant for streetlights – Chris Mason from the Montague Energy Committee prepared information and relayed it to Eileen to submit on July 9 for the META Grant.

Information was uploaded. No problems submitting the application.

Ken McCance from Yolam Energy reminded us that our contract through him for the streetlights expires in February 2019 and he would like to come in with a new contract. It was explained that we wouldn't know most likely until late in the year what direction we may proceed with LED lights, and we should wait until then to discuss this.

It was decided to have a public informational meeting for the ladder truck on September 5 at the Safety Complex at 6:30 p.m. with a Special District Meeting on September 26, 2018 at 7:00 at the Turners Falls High School Theater.

Next regular meeting is Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at 5:15 p.m. and will be held at the Safety Complex right before the ladder truck informational meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.