

Minutes of Prudential Committee & Finance Committee Meeting
March 18, 2019

Present: David Zamojski, Chairman, Prudential Committee
John Greene, Prudential Committee
John Zellmann, Fire Chief
Eileen Tela, District Accountant
Allyson Chabot, Finance Committee

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

Minutes were approved for the meetings of February 11th and February 25th.

Invoice warrants were reviewed and signed.

Finance Committee had questions about sick and vacation accruals and payouts on separation. The Chief explained what the current policy is. Discussion followed. Clarification is needed in the union contract about exactly what three weeks carryover means in terms of hours, and how this affects the Deputy Chief's position.

Budgets- Chief would like to see lease payment on ladder truck moved to the Fire Department budget and start to set aside funds for capital improvements in Stabilization. Discussion followed. Chief also suggested merging ambulance budget with fire budget. Discussion followed about this also. Eileen will contact Pat Squillante from Melanson Heath for her thoughts.

Special Articles – It was decided to request additional funds for Special Articles:
\$10,000 for OPEB funding
\$25,000 to Stabilization for general purposes, possibly for future led streetlights
\$50,000 to Stabilization designated for future fire vehicles

\$60,000 will be requested from free cash for these articles and \$25,000 will be requested from taxation. Free cash will have a balance of \$152,000 if all articles are approved.

Streetlights – Accountant sent out request for quotes for LED information on March 5 with requested due date is April 5. We expect that we will receive at least three quotes.

Health Insurance Benefits changes & flex plan accounts – Eileen contacted our attorney at KP Law about health insurance benefit changes that will be effective July 1. Because of the way our fire union contract is worded about insurance changes, Atty. Zessin's opinion is that we do not have to adopt Section 32B. She also met with American Fidelity representative and discussed the possibility of offering medical and dependent flexible spending accounts along with other benefits provided by them. They will keep our Section 125 cafeteria plan up-to-date, and they carry insurance for any possible losses related to the flex plans incurred at separation. No costs to us. Prudential Committee thinks this is a good idea, so Accountant will move forward with this.

Ambulance and Run Report – We had 109 calls for February, of which 74 were EMS calls, including 36 transports, a significant increase. During the first week of March we have had 12 transports. John noted that we have seen an upswing in diabetic emergencies and AMR is not always available. Our EMT's cannot administer glucagon. Chief has spoken up about diabetic medical emergencies and the need to administer glucose medication and will continue to try to push for this.

Dispatch services – Chief sent letter to Shelburne dispatch and is waiting to hear back.

Town Highway Garage – The Town may want to change the back driveway of the fire station a bit to provide better access to the Town Highway garage.

Old Ladder Truck is back from Greenfield and is now parked at fire station. Discussion followed about what to do with this vehicle.

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 1 at 5:15 p.m. May be cancelled if not necessary, and Prudential Committee will meet with Water Commissioners at Commissioners' next meeting on April 3 to review articles in preparation for the Annual District Meeting on April 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.