PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

TFfire logo **TURNERS FALLS FIRE DISTRICT**

226 MILLERS FALLS ROAD

TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

Phone: 413-863-4542 Fax: 413-863-3175

**Prudential Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date of Meeting:** Nov 11, 2024

**Time of Meeting:**  6:02 PM

**Location:** Turners Falls Fire Department

226 Millers Falls Road

Turners Falls, MA 01376

**Present at meeting:**

Leon Ambo, Prudential Committee Chair

David Zamojski, Prudential Committee

Todd Brunelle, Fire Chief

Eduard Bublik, District Accountant

**Prudential Committee Meeting:**

No Previous Minutes to Approve

**Accountants Report**

**Budget Balance as of Oct 31, 2024**

**General Gov’t** - $455,312 or 45% Remaining

**Fire Dept**. - $1,016,902 or 67% Remaining

**Ambulance** - $177,050 or 64% Remaining

**Coastal Billings Collections** from July-Oct $76K

**Chiefs Report:**

**Sep 2024 Chiefs’ Report**

To: Prudential Committee: Turners Falls Fire and Water District

1. **Total Runs Sep** =155

Fire = 32

EMS = 123

Transports TFFD = 53

Other EMS agency = 37

Refusal of transport =12

1. **Fire prevention**

Fees collected $300.00

17 – Inspections / enforcement/ compliance interactions

1. **EMS** - QCI/QCA of approximately 107 Patient Care Report with 46 of those being TFFD transports that in turn were submitted to Coastal Medical for appropriate billing.

* Also coordinating a BLS-ALS interface training with Northfield EMS for 12 lead and other ALS intervention assistance.
* Worked with Captain Dana and EMS Assistant FF Mason on LMA training for October 9th.
* Working with Community 911 on upcoming trainings and also QCI/QCA training.

1. **Child Passenger Safety Seat program:** A total of 5 car seat installations and inspections occurred throughout Sep.

* **Public Education –** Interacted with over 4.1K Facebook Page followers as well as 773 Instagram followers with multiple posts and shares of happenings within Turners Falls Fire. The top post reached 3,802 people in September.

1. **Pubic Information-** Interacted with over 4.1K Facebook Page followers as well as 771 Instagram followers with multiple posts and shares of happenings within Turners Falls Fire. The top post reached an estimated 1,424 Facebook users. 18 new followers joined over the month of August**.**

* 2 members attended the 7th annual Senior Expo hosted by TRIAD. Members shared fire prevention and home safety tips to the seniors in attendance.
* Coordinated the October Fire prevention schedule with 5 schools for the month of October.

1. Firefighter on Probation – FF. Cara has successfully completed his first 12 months of probation.

**October 2024 Chiefs’ Report**

To: Prudential Committee: Turners Falls Fire and Water District

1. **Total Runs Sep** =171

Fire = 53

EMS = 118

Transports TFFD = 53

Other EMS agency = 37

Refusal of transport =12

1. **Fire prevention**

Fees collected $550.00

18– Inspections / enforcement/ compliance interactions

1. **EMS** - QCI/QCA of approximately 105 Patient Care Report with 53 of those being TFFD transports that in turn were submitted to Coastal Medical for appropriate billing.

* Also coordinating a BLS-ALS interface training with Northfield EMS for 12 lead and other ALS intervention assistance.
* Worked with Captain Dana and EMS Assistant FF Mason on LMA training for October 9th.
* Working with Community 911 on upcoming trainings and also QCI/QCA training.

1. **Child Passenger Safety Seat program:** A total of 3 car seat installations and inspections occurred throughout October.

* **Public Education –** Interacted with over 4.1K Facebook Page followers as well as 773 Instagram followers with multiple posts and shares of happenings within Turners Falls Fire. The top post reached 5.5K people in October.
* Fire Prevention week presentations delivered to the following schools.
* Sheffield, Hillcrest, Central St., G., St, and JaDuke
* 2 Members attended ‘Trunk or Treat” at Sheffield and JaDuke to engage with the public and share the message of fire prevention and safety. Sheffield and Hillcrest also were visited and glow sticks given to the students along with Halloween safety tips.

**Other discussion**

**Discuss consideration of handing over the streetlights to the DPW**

There is ongoing public confusion about why the Fire District is managing streetlights, as most outage reports are directed to the DPW initially.

Currently, when streetlights require repair, the Fire District relies on the DPW to provide their bucket truck for the electrician to complete the work. This process highlights a potential overlap in responsibilities and suggests that the DPW may be better equipped to handle streetlight management directly.

**Human Resources:**

The Chief has proposed discussing the addition of a shared human resources position for the district and the town. This role would address issues faced by both the district and its employees and help with any future hiring processes. Currently, many personal matters are handled by our legal team, which incurs costs and is unsustainable as we continue to grow. Neither the town nor the fire district currently has an HR person.

**Fiscal Year 2025 Budgeting Discussion**

**The following priorities were discussed as part of the FY25 budget planning process:**

**Expanding Personnel for Primary Ambulance Service**

Consideration of hiring additional staff to establish the town’s Primary Ambulance Service, ensuring improved coverage and response times.

**Vehicle Replacement and Reallocation**

Proposal to replace the Chief’s Ford Explorer with a truck better suited to operational needs. The current Explorer would then be reassigned to the Deputy Chief, who is presently using an F250, a vehicle deemed too costly for routine tasks.

**Planning for a New Fire Truck**

Begin exploring funding opportunities and timelines for the acquisition of a new fire truck to meet future operational demands.

Next meeting will be scheduled for Dec 3rd, 2024 6PM.

**Agenda for next meeting**

**1) Call to Order**

**2) Approval of last District meeting minutes**

**3) Old Business**

**4) Department report – Fire/Accounting**

**5) New Business**

**6) Adjournment**

**F. Meeting Adjourned at: 6:40 PM**

**G. Meeting Minutes submitted by:** Eduard Bublik, District Accountant