



PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE FIRE DISTRICT #2

20 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley, MA 01075

Tel: (413) 534-5748 - Fax: (413) 517-6054

Minutes of June 9, 2020

Convened: 5:35 p.m.

Adjourned 6:32 p.m.

Present

Prudential Committee Chair: James Menard

Members: Kenneth LeBlanc

Robert Bak

Clerk/Treasurer: Barbara Miller

Fire Chief: Todd Calkins

Others Present:

Brian Fay

Mike O'Neill

Mike Cote

Trevor McKenna

Collin Mick

Meeting called to order by Chairman Menard. He announced that the meeting is being recorded and will be posted on the website.

Payroll and Vendor Warrants were reviewed by K. LeBlanc and R. Bak. Per Sections 57-58 of the Municipal Modernization Act and PC votes of 12/15/2016 and 3/10/2020 warrants were previously approved by J. Menard, PC Chair.

Minutes

K. LeBlanc made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/20/2020, 4/28/2020 and 5/19/2020, R. Bak seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Report

Chief Calkins reported that the staff remains healthy and the supply count is good. The department is building up supplies and preparing for possible future outbreaks. Collin Mick has been hired as full time FF/EMT. J. Menard asked if he would have Fire Truck information available at the Annual District Meeting, Chief responded that Lt. O'Neill would take care of that. Chief said that they were working on prices for a replacement ATV and the Airtank Committee is working on a grant. There were 55 calls in May and 17 so far in June including a structure fire; they lost the garage and the back deck of the house but the main structure was saved. Tower 3 was on scene. Chief Calkins expressed his thanks to Chief Authier. J. Menard said he spoke with the owner and he was very pleased with the performance of firefighters. Captain Moore is heading up the work on the SAM.gov website to possibly receive COVID expense reimbursement through federal funds. They have a proposal to blacktop the additional parking/training/hose drying space and additional driveway for Water Department access to the hydrant. PC portion of the proposal is \$4,000.

K. LeBlanc made a motion to approve the best price quote for paving of the area next to the driveway. R. Bak second, the motion passed unanimously.

Chief stated that fire safety inspection are starting back up. Chief asked PC opinion of allowing the US Coast Guard to sleep at the station a series of weekends during the summer. There is a grant to patrol the CT river but there are no funds for lodging. They have been permitted in the past. J. Menard said it's the Chief's call and he can set it up as long as the firearms are secured at the Police Dept. and they do not interfere with the function of the station. Chief said they were purchasing nozzles and fittings from the fire equipment budget they also need a Milwaukee partner saw with blade and power pack, J. Menard said he should do both. MHC equipment account purchases this year: four SCBA bottles (purchased yearly) and four sets of structural gear top and bottom and four vests. Four vests were also purchased from ambulance equipment. E2 and E4 preventative maintenance, and pump tests will be done from this budget. Ambulance deposits are better, fiscal average collection rate is about 80%. J. Menard asked about the old uncollected amounts. Chief responded that we are allowed to go back seven years, so many of those are getting collection letters. B. Miller stated that there were two huge deposits in April and it is entirely possible that it is the result of the collection efforts. Chief stated the disposition report is down to \$80,000.

PC Chair Discussion Items

Annual District Meeting

J. Menard said the meeting would be outside at the station. B. Miller said the meeting is posted on the website and she will have it put in the Town Reminder also. General discussion regarding the setup of the meeting outside.

B. Miller explained that based on Section 7 of Chapter 92 of the Acts of 2020 the PC will be taking a vote to reduce the quorum to ten percent of the existing quorum. She stressed that this reduction will be for this Annual District Meeting only. The sole purpose of this vote is to make certain that we are able to pass a basic budget to continue functioning. She stated that they encourage everyone to come but if people are uncomfortable attending they don't need to.

K. LeBlanc made a motion to reduce the quorum for the Annual District Meeting to ten percent of our current quorum, which is forty. R. Bak second, vote unanimous.

M. O'Neill spoke to urge the board to schedule the Special District Meeting soon, the build time is currently 9.5 months for a new pumper.

B. Miller explained that with the hiring of the Chief and two FF/EMTs there is the potential for savings in the health insurance line of the budget. She had sufficient funds in the original budget for three family plans. The only issue being if changes occur and the status of an individual changes there will not be additional funds and it would be necessary to go to the reserve account. The PC members suggested she use the lower insurance budget amount.

The next Prudential Committee meeting will be prior to the Annual District Meeting, 10:00 am June 20, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Miller, Treasurer

Minutes approved _____