



PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE FIRE DISTRICT #2

20 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley, MA 01075
Tel: (413) 534-5748 - Fax: (413) 517-6054

Minutes of October 18, 2022

Convened: 5:40 p.m.

Adjourned 6:16 p.m.

Present

Prudential Committee Chair: Kenneth LeBlanc

Members: John Moriarty

Clerk/Treasurer: Barbara Miller

Ambulance Director: Ryan Moore

Water Commissioners: Frank DeToma

Kate Bedard

Dan Luis

Water Superintendent: Mark Aiken

Others Present:

Tim Cauley

Joanne Carbin-Bryan

Linda Young

Marybeth O'Meara

Janice DeToma

Tracie Mastorakis

Meeting called to order by Chairman LeBlanc. It was announced that the meeting is being recorded and will be posted on the District's website.

Payroll and Vendor Warrants were reviewed by R. Bak and J. Moriarty. 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 K. LeBlanc, PC Chair.

Elmer Brook Discussion

Linda Young spoke to the concerns of some residents who are disappointed there will not be a Trail of Screams by the Boy Scouts this year due to the Water Commissioners denying them use of the Elmer Brook property. There was discussion regarding the slash left behind after the forest cutting on the property. L. Young said that she had six volunteers willing to clean up the trail (using personal tools and equipment) that had been used in the past by the Boy Scouts. There was discussion regarding liability to the District if volunteers were allowed and someone was to get hurt. The discussion included other trails that people made in the past that should not have been there. M. Aiken said that the Water Dept. has a mini-excavator. T. Cauley said if the Boy Scouts flag the trail they need he can clear it with the excavator since it's a very small loop. But he cautioned, once the Boy Scout trail is cleared, people will come in and expect to use all the old trails again. There was also discussion regarding clearing the fire access trail. F. DeToma said it sounded like a good suggestion, and the Water Commissioners would go and have further discussion at their meeting, and likely vote to approve it.

5:55 p.m. The Water Commissioners and the other attendees left the meeting.

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by J. Moriarty seconded by K. LeBlanc. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Fire and Ambulance Report

Cpt. Moore reported that call volume is steady with fire responses in District 2 as well as Granby and District 1 mutual aide calls. Ambulance transports are 15 away from the record year with two and half months till the end of the calendar year. The AFG grant for air packs was denied, likely, due to too many communities and too little money. There were approximately two billion in requests and four hundred million in available funds. The District's S.A.F.E and Senior S.A.F.E. grant applications have been received by the state, which is nearly certain to be granted with \$3,500 going toward student awareness and education and \$1,800 for seniors which includes the fall prevention home visits, smoke and CO detectors. The DFS grant is due in three days and he's finalizing it now. The amount is \$15,500. We are submitting for money to outfit three firefighters with a full set of gear and a couple sets of extra boots and gloves. This grant also has a high likelihood of being granted as long as you're applying for high priority items and we'll be replacing gear that is non-compliant. The Chief has been in contact with multiple people regarding the pickup truck purchase, availability is low and prices are up. Staffing has been adequate, we gained an EMT who recently passed the exam. Fire prevention has been to all of the third grades for the student awareness, with intentions of doing the fourth graders, who didn't get it in third grade due to Covid, and they may go into the second-grade classes also and then will focus on the middle school.

PC Chair Discussion Items

Elmer Brook – K. LeBlanc said he would like to put some conditions on it, if approved. J. Moriarty said if the Water Dept. can do the clean up, he's in favor of it, but he isn't comfortable with volunteers. K. LeBlanc said he would want to formally receive a Certificate of Insurance from the Boy Scouts before allowing them access.

J. Moriarty made a motion to allow the Water Department to clean the trail for the Boy Scouts of America, to use it for their Halloween activities provided the Boy Scouts provide adequate documentation for insurance purposes. K. LeBlanc seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

New Conflict of Interest Requirements – B. Miller stated, the State Ethics Commission will be hosting the Conflict of Interest Law online training on their learning management system (LMS). Communities must sign up to use the state system or host the program on a municipal LMS or intranet site. Employees will no longer need to submit acknowledgements or certificates to the clerk, the system will store the records and the clerk will also be able to send notifications to employees through the system. The District will use the state LMS rather than hosting it in-house.

The next Prudential Committee meeting will be Tuesday November 8, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Miller, Treasurer

Minutes approved _____