



PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE FIRE DISTRICT #2

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

Minutes of April 7, 2020

Convened: 5:30

Adjourned 6:38 p.m.

Present:

Prudential Committee Chair: James Menard

Members: Kenneth LeBlanc and Robert Bak

South Hadley District #2: Chief Todd Calkins

Treasurer Barbara Miller

Moderator Christopher Pyle

Others Present: Ira Brezinsky

Ted Boulais

Meeting Location: Due to the Current State of Emergency this meeting was held remotely via GoToMeeting.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Menard. Announced the meeting is being recorded. The recording will be posted on the website.

Per Sections 57-58 of the Municipal Modernization Act and PC vote of 12/15/2016 and 3/10/2020 warrants were previously approved by J. Menard, PC Chair.

PC Chair Discussion Item

Annual District Meeting Date

There was discussion regarding the Annual District Meeting. B. Miller stated, due to the District By-Laws the meeting warrant needs to be posted for the first Monday in May. The Moderator will then recess the meeting in 30-day increments. J. Menard said the game plan is to go out to July. B. Miller stated that we must hold the meeting within 30 days from the end of the State of Emergency. There was discussion regarding the preference to holding the meeting by June 30th to avoid the need to resort to a 1/12th budget after July 1.

Budget Revisions

J. Menard stated that, in light of the current crisis, he wants to minimize the budget. He would like to eliminate the following from the budget:

Demolition of the Elmer Brook Building

\$65,000 for the FD Vehicle Stabilization Fund

1% COLA

Fire Truck Purchase

District Stabilization Fund

These items all need to be done at some point but we need to minimize the warrant and maximize the available funds in case we are forced to go to the 1/12th budget after July 1. He said after the crisis is over, we can rethink things and maybe have a Special District Meeting. He stated that he is working toward another entity doing the dispatching, maybe the plan can be implemented before the District Meeting. T. Calkins said he wished to stress that some of these items are very, very important and he would like a vote or motion that there will be a Special District Meeting to address these items. There was discussion regarding cash flow if needed for a 1/12 budget into FY2021.

There was a discussion regarding the ambulance budget and the receipts available for an appropriation shortfall.

Fire Chief COVID 19 Update

All agencies in Town are meeting weekly, remotely. Agreement between District 1 and District 2 for sharing staffing if needed. MOU for all fire, EMS, police and public safety first responders for a quarantine facility in the Town of Hadley. He thanks the chiefs that put this together. There will be an invoice from the Town of Hadley. All COVID 19 expenses are being tracked. In good shape for PPE. All staff are healthy. He wants a meeting specific to ambulance once we are able to meet normally.

Chief Calkins stated that he had been interviewed by the Town Reminder.

By-Law Update

There was discussion regarding a by-law change to specify the term start date of elected officials. B. Miller stated that she sent a copy of Attorney O'Toole's letter to the PC members. Attorney O'Toole's opinion is that the law says that it is the day after the election, he said we don't need it put in the by-law, we can just go by MGL, but she would prefer it to be specified in the by-law so the question never comes up again. I. Brezinsky said District 1 has a By-Law Advisory Committee and one item on the proposed by-law changes addresses this issue and it aligns with the Towns by-law. It says that elected officials take their office the day after the election except when the election does not happen the second Tuesday of April, if it happens earlier than that then the individual being elected would take their seat on the second Wednesday of April, if the election were delayed to after the second Tuesday of April that individual would take their seat the day after whenever that election would be. J. Menard asked that the this item be added to the next agenda. I. Brezinsky to send District 1's wording to B. Miller.

The next Prudential Committee meeting will be Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Miller, Treasurer

Minutes approved _____