



PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

FIRE DISTRICT #2

20 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley, MA 01075

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

June 19, 2018

Prudential Committee Meeting

Convened: 6:00 p.m.

Adjourned: 6:55 p.m.

Present:

Prudential Committee Chair: Kenneth McKenna

Members: Richard Constant and James Menard

South Hadley District #2: Fire Chief Scott Brady

Asst. Chief Todd Calkins

Clerk/Treasurer Barbara Miller

Francis DeToma, Water Commissioner

Others Present:

Michael O'Neill

Ryan Moore

Tracy Whelen

Sam Lemanski

Meeting called to order by Chairman McKenna

Payroll and Vendor Warrants were reviewed by J. Menard and R. Constant. Per Sections 57-58 of the Municipal Modernization Act and PC vote of 12/15/2016 warrants were previously approved by K. McKenna PC Chair.

PC Chair Report and Discussion Items

K. McKenna welcomed newly elected member James Menard.

R. Constant nominated K. McKenna to serve as Chairman, J. Menard seconded the nomination. The motion passed unanimously.

K. McKenna stated that the PC would be approving a Disposal Policy in the future. He had discussed the issue with Attorney Ed Ryan and it was decided that the draft originally provided by Attorney Ryan should be revised before approval. K. McKenna stated that Attorney Ryan said they could take action regarding final disposal of R6, a 1999 Tahoe, due to the value being below \$1,000. The vehicle was declared surplus at the March 6, 2018 meeting. There was discussion regarding selling the vehicle. K. McKenna asked Chief Brady what was wrong with the vehicle. Chief Brady stated that the vehicle had over a hundred thousand miles and had failed DOT inspection due to brakes and headlights; it needed the brake lines replaced again and the headlights were an electrical issue. K. McKenna stated that Tim Cauley and Mike Koske had each originally expressed interest in the vehicle but had subsequently changed their minds. He stated that there is currently one person, Matt Flynn, that is interested in purchasing the vehicle. R. Constant asked who Matt Flynn was; B. Miller responded that it was her son. The PC members discussed setting an asking price. Chief Brady stated that Kelly Blue Book price on a 1999 Tahoe is \$290 to \$700. K. McKenna suggested \$500, R. Constant said he was thinking less than that, maybe \$400. There was further discussion regarding the condition of the vehicle.

R. Constant made a motion to sell the 1999 Tahoe for \$300, the motion was seconded by J. Menard. The motion passed unanimously.

K. McKenna stated that there was a meeting of the Bike Walk Committee tomorrow, at 7 pm at the South Hadley Public Library. R. Constant stated that he had a prior commitment but if he gets out early enough he will attend. F. DeToma and R. Constant gave a brief history of what the Bike Walk Committee agenda refers to as the Lithia Springs Reservoir Access Project. J. Menard said that he would attend the meeting.

Treasurer's Report and Discussion Items

HCGIT Update - B. Miller stated that the planned benefit changes discussed last year are being delayed. Some of the units didn't implement MGL32b Sect. 21-22 to the letter and there were threats of lawsuits against some municipalities by their unions. The rate increases remain as planned which will likely cause the Trust to use additional reserves, since it is self-funded and the original voted increase to the rates was based on the benefit changes reducing costs. HCGIT will work closely with members to ensure full compliance with MGL 32b Sect. 21-22 for implementation of the benefit changes for FY2020.

Columbia Gas Rates - B. Miller stated that Columbia Gas has applied to DPU for a rate increase, the impact to commercial properties, if approved, would be 3.74 to 5.98%. Which amounts to a couple hundred dollar increase for our annual gas expense.

Ambulance Financing - B. Miller stated that Peter Frazier of Hilltop Securities was concerned that the rates for 10-year State House Serial Notes were not favorable and that we might consider a one-year Bond Anticipation Note (BAN). She further stated that this option would have additional borrowing costs each year until we finalized long term borrowing. She feels rates will continue to climb and would prefer to get the long term borrowing in place. Based on a few phone calls to area banks she is confident going out to bid now will produce a rate that we can live with. Chief Brady stated that the ambulances at the EMS Expo were not likely to be anything we could purchase therefore it will be several months before we take delivery. B. Miller will contact P. Frazier to determine how soon we can go out to bid for a rate when the ambulance will not be delivered for several months. K. McKenna stated that OEMS law requires the rails for a lift gate be installed on all new vehicles. Chief Brady responded that the lift gate will cover us for that. K. McKenna stated for clarification that the law only requires the rails it doesn't require the lift gate.

6-12-2018 Election - B. Miller stated that the election went smoothly, there were sixty ballots cast, which is a better than expected turnout for an uncontested race.

Results of the election: Chris Pyle for Moderator with 46 votes

James Menard for Prudential Committee with 55 votes

William Holt for Water Commissioner with 48 votes

Future Elections with Town and D1 - B. Miller stated that Attorney Ed Ryan drafted a proposed Special Act for District 2 to hold elections outside the District Boundaries, which has been sent to Michelle Tassinari, Director and Legal Counsel Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Mass. K. McKenna stated that he met with Attorney Ryan earlier in the day and at that time there had been no response from M. Tassinari. B. Miller stated that we will need a District Meeting vote accepting MGL 41 Sect 113 which includes the verbiage of "official ballots"; Attorney Ryan has requested a response from M. Tassinari as to whether or not it can wait until the Annual District Meeting in May or if it is necessary to have the vote before the first election with the Town and District 1. B. Miller stated that she also asked Attorney Ryan for clarification regarding the use of tabulators; at one time she had been told that we would need Special Legislation to allow us to use tabulators for our election.

Fire Chief Report and Discussion Items

Chief Brady reported that there were 38 EMS calls and 24 Fire calls in May, this is a 10% increase over the same time period last year.

Chief Brady further reported that MHC is installing sprinkler systems in Prospect Hall and the Maker Space (area to have welding shop, paint booth, CNC and a woodshop). And they plan to sprinkle all residence halls in the next four to six years. MHC's interim Chief of Police Ortiz has moved out of the area and Chief Labarr is back as interim Chief.

Chief Brady stated that Hadley is developing a BLS Ambulance Service using a staffing model similar to Granby with 2 firefighters on days. We have a mutual aid agreement for the southern portion of Hadley. There will be additional open training going both ways.

Chief Brady reported that the Ambulance License Renewal Process is complete and expressed appreciation to Lieutenant Moore and his staff for their assistance.

K. McKenna requested a report on E4. Chief Brady provided repair estimates to the PC members (attached) and verbally listed the companies that either didn't respond to the request or said they weren't interested. Chief Brady explained that the three estimates include: the Greenwood estimate from April, DLC Repair quote which includes a broader list of repairs and not everything on the list would necessarily be completed and the Five Star Fire quote which includes the items necessary to pass the pressure test and troubleshoot the issues with the tank level light and blinker. There was discussion regarding the quotes with Chief Brady recommended going forward with Five Star as it is the least expensive and they can do the work at the station. Asst. Chief Calkins requested a bit of leeway so that if they find additional items they can be repaired at that time. T. Calkins stated that he planned to work along side the repairman. K. McKenna stated that he would be around and getting updates on the repairs.

K. McKenna stated that we are mandated to have pump tests done each year. Chief Brady agreed. K. McKenna requested copies of the last pump test. T. Calkins provided the report. K. McKenna asked about the DOT inspections, Chief replied that this year, for the first time, they had a company that came to the station and performed the inspections. K. McKenna asked if E4 passed the inspection; Chief Brady replied in the affirmative.

J. Menard asked if we have estimates for repairs to both vehicles. Chief Brady replied that there is nothing currently with E2 that would keep it off the road.

R. Constant made a motion to contact Five Star Fire and commit to having the work performed on E4 based on the proposal. J. Menard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

J. Menard asked if they were going to allocate additional funds. K. McKenna stated that the Chief will stay in contact with the Chairman. There was limited additional discussion and R. Constant said that we have an agreement that if he [Five Star] finds some small, little thing, he will go ahead and fix it.

K. McKenna asked J. Menard if he had anything to discuss. J. Menard stated that he would like the Prudential Committee to look into putting solar on some of District 2 land. He said that we could lease the land, he didn't know if we could get the electricity but he would like to get the pump station on it, if possible. He offered to look into it. Both K. McKenna and R. Constant agreed that it was worth taking a look at and stated that there was no vote required for J. Menard to begin the process. R. Constant asked him to inform F. DeToma of his progress.

- The next regular District meeting will be Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Miller, Treasurer

Minutes approved _____