



PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

FIRE DISTRICT #2

20 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley, MA 01075

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

July 9, 2019

Prudential Committee Meeting

Convened: 6:00 p.m.

Adjourned: 6:52 p.m.

Present:

Prudential Committee Chair: Kenneth McKenna

Member Present: James Menard

Member Absent: Kenneth LeBlanc

South Hadley District #2: Chief Scott Brady

Asst. Chief Todd Calkins

Treasurer Barbara Miller

Others Present: Mike O'Neill

Chrysanthi Gavagan

Meeting called to order by Chairman McKenna. He announced that the meeting is being recorded.

J. Menard made a motion to approve the minutes of April 16, 2019 and May 6, 2019, motion seconded by K. McKenna. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Payroll and Vendor Warrants were reviewed by J. Menard. 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.

Chief Brady, Report

Chief Brady provided the incident report to the PC members stating that FY2018 incident count was 390 and FY2019 incident count was 423 with a reduction in calls on campus and an increase in calls off campus. He provided a White Paper (from 2007) with information regarding other fire departments around the country and the ages of their apparatus and their replacement cycles. Chief Brady stated that the fireworks went very smoothly with zero calls. Engine 2 is back from Five Star and is back in service. Once Hadley puts its reserve engine back into reserve status, we'll take engine 4 off the road for repairs. J. Menard asked about the accident on campus. Chief Brady stated that while responding to an overdose call, the ambulance was waved on. The police vehicle's hatch was open and it scratched the ambulance with very minor damage but some lettering will need replacing. A report was filed with campus police but there will be no insurance claim. Chief called it a faultless issue.

PC Chair Discussion Items

Ambulance Surplus – Chief Brady clarified it is technically the old rescue vehicle, it is an ambulance body. Asst. Chief Calkins stated that it is the old 64 R4. B. Miller read the disposal policy as adopted July 17, 2018. Both Chief Brady and Assistant Chief Calkins agreed that the value is greater than \$1,000 therefore it will be advertised.

J. Menard made a motion to declare the old ambulance, 1994 Ford (R4) as surplus with a value greater than \$1,000, seconded by K. McKenna. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

K. McKenna asked if there was any more conversation on Five Star. B. Miller stated that she had included it on the agenda again because prior to the last meeting K. McKenna had asked her to put Five Star on the agenda because he wanted to discuss removing the \$1,000 from the previous motion regarding Five Star. That particular item had not been discussed at the last meeting, she stated that she is not making any suggestions either way, she just wanted to make sure they got done whatever they had wanted to do.

J. Menard made a motion to delete the \$1,000 from the Five Star motion made at a previous meeting, so all repairs on all fire vehicles by Five Star. Seconded by K. McKenna. The motion passed with a unanimous vote. [See note later in the meeting, clarifying fire engines rather than all fire vehicles.]

[Above motion to amend the vote taken on 7/17/2018 Prudential Committee Meeting, J. Menard made a motion to have Five Star as our official Fire Vehicle repair company for repairs over \$1,000. Second by R. Constant. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.]

Treasurer Report and Discussion Items

B. Miller read a statement in response to the request from K. McKenna for a report on “what the District can afford” (Attached). In part, it stated that the vehicle stabilization account currently has \$570,007, the building bond will be paid off in FY2026 with the taxation portion of the payment ranging from \$44,660 down to \$33,865. She suggests, based on Chief Brady’s Capital Plan, using \$300,000 from Vehicle Stabilization and borrowing \$500,000 with the extra \$100,000 to be available in case the cost exceeds the Capital Plan number and for issuance costs and the possibility of monies due on the note before the following budget cycle. She asked that the FY22 engine purchase in the Capital Plan be delayed until there is no longer a building bond payment. Her statement recommends continued negotiations with Mount Holyoke College with an emphasis on reducing interest costs for the District, and requesting \$50,000 to \$100,000 annually with a percentage to be used for equipment and the remainder to be added to the vehicle stabilization fund. She further stated that she hopes with a favorable interest rate and a 10 to 15 year note to have the payment at \$60,000 annually which would add fifteen cents to the tax rate and equates to ten dollars per quarter to the average single-family home tax bill.

J. Menard asked for the vehicles to be separate from the other items on the Chief’s Capital Plan. Chief responded that the SCBA bottle replacement and PPE replacement are funded from the MHC annual donation for equipment. J. Menard reviewed the plan mentioning that the pickup would not be replaced stating that was the idea when we brought it in. He suggests when the car goes to get a pickup truck. K. McKenna stated that it was promised that the ambulances would be funded from ambulance receipts but now the \$60,000 a year goes to dispatching. Discussion regarding dispatching. T. Calkins requested a small committee be formed for capital items similar to what Hadley has. Suggesting that it would allow discussion of what we have, what we need in the future and time to look at the vehicles. Then the committee could hash these things out, and come back to the PC with that research.

Discussion of the report requested by K. McKenna of all invoices for E2 and E4. B. Miller restated that she feels the information could and should be requested from the Fire Chief because she spent considerable time on it and feels it is duplication of work. K. McKenna stated that he disagrees. Brief discussion about why the accounting software doesn’t have the expenses broken out by E2 and E4. Asst. Chief Calkins stated that he could absolutely provide that

information and would work with the Treasurer. K. McKenna said if he has all the information he can work directly with the PC.

Asst. Chief asked the PC to restate their motion for “all fire” clarifying that he would not be taking the brush truck to Five Star for repairs. J. Menard said just fire trucks.

Asst. Chief Calkins asked if the board is comfortable with time and materials for Engine 4 and wants to ask the question outright so he doesn’t get in a bind. K. McKenna asked that he hold off until there is a full board.

Discussion regarding the replacement of the dishwasher.

For additional details, video recordings of the meetings may be viewed upon request.

- The next Prudential Committee meeting will be Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Miller, Treasurer

Minutes approved _____