



## PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

### FIRE DISTRICT #2

20 Woodbridge Street, South Hadley, MA 01075

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

**March 12, 2019**

#### **Prudential Committee Meeting**

Convened: 6:02 p.m.

Adjourned: 7:30 p.m.

#### **Present:**

Prudential Committee Chair: Kenneth McKenna

Members: Richard Constant and James Menard

South Hadley District #2: Chief Scott Brady

Asst. Chief Todd Calkins

Treasurer Barbara Miller

Francis DeToma, Water Commissioner

#### **Others Present:**

Linda Young

Collin Mick

Ken LeBlanc

Joel Prough

Mike O'Neill

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

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.

#### **Election**

Chairman McKenna announced the date, time and location of the upcoming election:

Date: April 9, 2019

Hours: 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Location: Cafeteria One

South Hadley High School

153 Newton Street

South Hadley, MA

#### **Budget**

K. McKenna read each line item of the fire and ambulance budgets, adjustments were made as indicated below:

5109 T.Call,Drill,Det,Sta Cov. - from \$154,163 down to \$105,000

5415 Fire-Veh/Equip Repair/Maint - from \$40,000 down to \$25,000

5425 Fire-Physicals/Health - from \$4,000 down to \$3,000

5426 Fire - Training - from \$7,500 down to \$5,500

5429 Fire - Communications - from \$9,500 down to \$8,500

5432 Ambulance - Veh/Equip - from \$9,000 down to \$7,000

J. Menard stated that in the future he would like more detail regarding needs and fund those details.

T. Calkins proposed that PC look at the Fire Prevention revenue and create a policy guaranteeing that revenue be added to the vehicle stabilization fund every year.

K. McKenna requested COLA discussion. B. Miller reviewed the HCRS, Social Security and Bureau of Labor statistics ranging, from 1.9 to 3%. K. McKenna reviewed the amount that each COLA increase would add to the budget. R. Constant stated that he was at 1.5. J. Menard asked what had been done in the past. Chief Brady reviewed the prior 3 years at 2% FY19, 1.5 FY18 and 1% FY17 adding that the average inflation rates were 2.4, 2.1 and 1.3 respectively. B. Miller stated that Hampshire County Retirement voted a 3% COLA for the retirees, R. Constant stated that our people are well taken care of with a generous health insurance package and dental and life insurance. K. McKenna stated that we are very proud of all our people and they are paid well, and there is the additional cost of insurance at about \$18,000. They do a fantastic job, they need proper gear, proper radios and we need to keep them safe. He agrees with a 1.5% COLA. J. Menard said that he would be happier giving a 2%.

R. Constant made a motion to provide a 1.5% COLA, K. McKenna seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

#### Annual District Meeting

There was a brief discussion regarding the people to be recognized at the Annual District Meeting.

J. Menard asked if there were any thoughts on his proposal to purchase a used truck. Chief Brady stated that he feared it is a band aid that will be left in place for far too long. R. Constant stated that the truck had been checked top to bottom and it is in real good shape. J. Menard said that he is not sorry he brought this up. He didn't like the way it went down last year. We need to discuss it; we're all in this together. Adding that it would be nice to come up with an alternative to buying a new truck. T. Calkins stated that the cost is now \$100,000 more than last year plus we put \$10,000 into the truck so it is a \$110,000 increase.

Meeting adjourned

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

- The next regular Prudential Committee meeting will be Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Miller, Treasurer

Minutes approved \_\_\_\_\_