



PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE FIRE DISTRICT #2

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

Minutes of February 8, 2022

Convened: 5:32 p.m.

Adjourned 6:59 p.m.

Present

Prudential Committee Chair: Kenneth LeBlanc

Members: James Menard

Clerk/Treasurer: Barbara Miller

Fire Chief: Todd Calkins

Ambulance Director: Ryan Moore

Others Present: Mike O'Neill

Meeting called to order by Chairman LeBlanc. It was announced that the meeting is being recorded. The public was provided virtual access via Go to Meeting.

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

Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2022 made by J. Menard, second by K. LeBlanc. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Fire and Ambulance Report

Chief Calkins stated, at the present time there are two fulltime FF out with Covid. They are beginning the home inspection effort between District 1, District 2, Police Dept. and Council on Aging. This effort started with Cpt. Moore's paper on fall prevention for his Master's Degree. Acting Cpt. Houle has started in District 1. The two District's are working together to make sure they are all done the same i.e., checking that the house is numbered properly, make sure there are no carpets or things for risk if they have a walker, check smoke and CO detectors, check if grab bars are necessary. Basically, making them comfortable and making them be able to stay in their homes longer, making them safe. The Red Cross has provided some smoke and CO detectors through a grant they received. There were 72 fire and ambulance calls in January. Asbestos abatement in the cellar is complete for the heater exchange. Grants: the exhaust capturing system is complete. There is a combined D1/D2 food drive, since we couldn't do Bag the Community this year. Call volume is up in all the area communities.

Cpt. Moore stated the college is back and statistically February is one of the busier months. AED grant was awarded to D2. Police, D1, D2 all applied for it, but it's per municipality. So there was discussion about who needed it more; in the end everyone agreed that D2 should get it. There will now be an AED in both engines and both ambulances. R. Moore said the last 3-month lag report for collections was at 92%. A1 had several thousand dollars in warrantied repairs.

Chief Calkins stated Douglas Auctions sold the old fire truck, we received \$5,000. All paperwork is complete.

PC Chair Discussion Items

Elmer Brook Committee

Motion to appoint Frank DeToma, Robert Bak and Dan Luis to the Elmer Brook Committee, second by K. LeBlanc. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

J. Menard said he talked with F. DeToma, they haven't had a meeting yet. They are reviewing the book from the previous committee. He said he received an email from Anne Capra which was forwarded to F. DeToma and B. Miller, on the bridge item. He informed Anne Capra that the committee has been reformed and F. DeToma is now the chair and he will be in contact. He stated that F. DeToma responded to the email and A. Capra is going forward with steps with DCR. Keeping the option open for accessibility.

Election 2022

K. LeBlanc stated the date, time and location of the SHFD2 election as:
Tuesday, April 12, 2022 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
at South Hadley High School, 153 Newton Street.

Budget

There was discussion regarding the budget. B. Miller stated that there was no increase to the health and dental insurance rates for FY23 due to the current level of reserves in the HCGIT, but there will likely be an increase for the FY24 budget. County retirement and OPEB are up a little. B. Miller mentioned that the carpet in the breakroom should be considered for replacement. There was discussion regarding expansion of bunk room facilities and storage. Chief Calkins asked to meet with K. LeBlanc to develop a materials list. B Miller stated that the server and pc's are five years old and will need replacement this year or next. J. Menard asked for a list of future needs. Chief Calkins mentioned the generator and the bottle filling station with District 1. There was discussion regarding the individual fire and ambulance line items. The items discussed in detail include the cost of uniforms, physicals/health and wellness, training, outside services and ALS. The wages and salaries discussion were postponed until all three PC members are present.

B. Miller stated that she has included \$5,000 Building Stabilization, \$75,000 FD Vehicle Stabilization and \$10,000 Ambulance Stabilization as placeholders. There was discussion regarding the numbers and what the PC has set as policy.

The next Prudential Committee meeting will be Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Miller, Treasurer

Minutes approved _____