



Three Rivers Fire District
50 Springfield Street
Three Rivers, MA 01080

Prudential Committee Minutes

Chairman Norman Czech called a meeting of the Prudential Committee to order at 6:30 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Norman Czech; Prudential Committee Chairman
Stephen Chiacchia; Prudential Committee Vice Chairman
Andrea Sullivan; Prudential Committee Clerk
Steve Nodurf; Three Rivers Interim Fire Chief

Nicole Dewberry; Three Rivers Water Superintendent
Lorinda Baker; District Treasurer
Sherrie Bellefleur; Three Rivers Recording Secretary

Roll Call

Stephen Chiacchia: Prudential Committee Vice Chairman is attending the meeting via conference call.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

The Prudential Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the January 9, 2024, Special meeting.
MOTION (CHACCHIA; SULLIVAN): To approve the January 9, 2024, minutes to the Special meeting. 3-0-0

The Prudential Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the December 20, 2023, meeting.
MOTION (SULLIVAN; CHACCHIA): To approve the December 20, 2023, minutes to the meeting. 3-0-0

Public Comment

None

Committee Reports

None

Report of the Treasurer

Lorinda Baker: District Treasurer read the report of the treasurer for December 2023.

Water Department:

- Income for December 2023 was \$ 10,992.99 (a decrease of \$4,374.02 from December 2022).
- Expenses for December 2023 were \$38,374.81 (a increase of \$2,059.09 from December 2022).
- Fiscal YTD Net Income \$ 53,842.01 (a decrease of \$ 3,497.96 from July – November 2022).

Fire Department:

- No issues

District:

- No issues

The check listing was not included for December 2023 but will be included with January 2024 at next month's meeting.

MOTION (SULLIVAN; CHIACCHIA): To accept the Treasurers Report for December 2023. Approved. 3-0-0

MOTION (SULLIVAN; CHIACCHIA): To accept the Treasurers Warrant for December 2023. Approved. 3-0-0

Report of the Fire Chief

Fire Chief Steve Nodurf read his November 2023 Report of the Fire Chief.

At the start of the report Fire Chief Nodurf asked about the Safe Grant and if the money had been moved from the Water Department Acct. to the Fire Dept. Acct. Ms. Baker will check with Mr. Marhelewicz our District Accountant on this.

Administration

- Senior Private discussion
- E1 to On Scene for repairs
- Follow-up at Pathfinder
- Budget review
- Prodigy EMS
- ESO Upgrade Project
- EMS Upgrade Project

Fire Prevention/Education:

- Conduct annual inspections for the following businesses:
 - Sherman Oil, Public Petroleum, Burgundy Brook, M.B.'s, and St Stans.
- 5 26F Presale inspections
- 1 Oil burner inspection

Operations:

- 16-Emergency incidents
- 7-Non-emergency service calls

Training:

Engine Company Operations First Due
DFS MFA FOAST
Hydrant Tagging
Ropes and Knots
Pump Operations
Cadet Program

Events:

- Krampus Movie night
- Deliver Santa to Amvets
- Christmas Parade

Chief Nodurf has also said they are still having dispatch issues. He plans to sit down and talk about this to Police Chief Burns.

A ladder has also been borrowed from Cheshire Fire, so we have a ladder until ours that is on order comes in. It could be 7 to 12 weeks before it comes in, but Cheshire has said we can borrow the ladder until then.

MOTION (SULLIVAN; CHIACCHIA): To accept the report of the Fire Chief Steve Nodurf for December 2023. Approved 3-0-0

Report of the Water Superintendent

Nicole Newberry read her Report of the Water Superintendent for December 2023.

Status of Water Systems:

- There was a water main break that a resident reported at the top of Springfield Street on December 21st. Tom and his coworkers helped to repair the break during that evening. Ms. Dewberry requested excavation bills to date, when they are received, the cost of those repairs will be reflected in our budget.

- A hydrant on Main Street was leaking, the wearable parts were rebuilt. The hydrant at the old Unicorn building on Chamber Road is still down—it is a different style hydrant so we're waiting on an order for the wearable parts. If they cannot supply the parts, then we will have to replace it.
- Glenn from Neponsett Controls replaced the broken chlorine chart recorder at the pump station. He also updated the alarm with a hard reset since the battery was replaced. The alarm phone numbers call me, Mac, and the office, in that order. Finally, Glenn completed a yearly inspection required by DEP to ensure that our chart recorders and meters at the pump station are accurate.
- Repaired the faulty backflow device and replaced a leaking chemical antisiphon valve at the pump station.
- Rich and Mac performed manual meter reads over the course of a few weeks, to gather the data that we need for DEP's Annual Statistics Report. They found a few meters that weren't working, and so they're in the process of replacing those now. They have also continued to work on the service line inventory for DEP.
- Sam continued to work on the transition to the new VADAR billing software.

Appeal of Water Management Act

- This is the act that would police people for watering their lawns when there is an order to not water lawns. The courts did not rule in favor of this so the decision would like to be appealed. Would you like to retain the services of Burns Levinson to appeal the Water Management Act Superior Court decision? If so, do you agree to reallocate money to move forward? Chairman Czech has said the money has already been allocated.

Tank Project – State Revolving Fund

- An email was forwarded from DEP to the Board at the end of December, stating that we did not receive the State Revolving Fund grant. Ms. Dewberry drafted a letter of her written testimony, to appeal to their decision. The Board has instructed Ms. Dewberry to send the letter out, everyone agrees that the letter is okay. Ms. Sullivan asked why we did not get the State Revolving fund. Ms. Dewberry states because it was dropped down in rank. The ranking now from 2 years ago is done differently.

Community Development Block Grant on Maple St. and Maple Terrace

- All who are involved in the project met at the Town Hall today with Bill Storti of Weston & Sampson Engineering.
- Phase I includes the design for Maple Street and Maple Terrace, as well as construction for Maple Street. They are hoping to receive funding to perform the construction on Maple Terrace in the future. There may be even more work done in the neighborhood during future years.
- As of right now, it seems that the design would take place during the spring and summer of 2024, and then the project would go out to bid during the fall of 2024.
- There will be a meeting about the project with residents, to take place within the neighborhood.
- The engineer's plan is to retain the current 8" main that exists on part of Maple Street and Maple Terrace, and then replace the old 6" mains with 8" mains for improved fire flow.
- The Board would like to leave the design to Ms. Dewberry being that she is the expert in this area. Ms. Sullivan did ask if she was going to try and go with all the same hydrants. Some discussions took place on the different hydrants and other towns and what they use.

MOTION (SULLIVAN; CHIACCHIA): To accept the report of the Water Superintendent for December 2023. Approved 3-0-0

Board Members Comments:

Steve Chiacchia mentions that the USDA is a possible funding source for the Tank Restoration Project. There is a % of loan forgiveness with the USDA.

New Business:

The finance meeting that was to be this evening could not take place because of the 48-hour posting (not including weekends or federal holidays) regulations. Being that Martin Luther King Day was a federal holiday that did not count as a "posting" day. The meeting needs to be held another day. It will now be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

Old Business:

None

Discuss and/or take action on any business unknown/unavailable prior to the posting of this

agenda:

The Board received a letter from Patrick Farrow, the committee's choice for Fire Chief. Unfortunately, he has declined the position after he was made an offer. Chairman Czech read the letter out loud at the meeting. Primary reasons were financial.

The Board will now meet to discuss what options they will want to pursue. Disappointment was shared among the board being that the salary was somewhat discussed prior to this. The request of salary that was asked for was just way more than our District can afford.

Mr. Farrow should have been cognizant; he was told what the salary was and was given the information. A lot of time was put into this.

MOTION (SULLIVAN; CHIACCHIA): To adjourn from the Open Meeting at 7:35 pm. Approved 3-0-0

Submitted by:

Approved as to Form and Content:

Sherrie Bellefleur, District Recording Secretary

Norman Czech, Chairman

Date: _____

Date: _____