



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

Prudential Committee Minutes

Chairman Richard Pobieglo called a meeting of the Prudential Committee to order at 6:33 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Richard Pobieglo; Prudential Committee Chairman
Stephen Chiacchia; Prudential Committee Vice Chairman
Norman Czech; Prudential Committee Clerk

Scott Turner; Fire Chief
Chris Connolly; Water Superintendent
Sherrie Bellefleur; District Recording Secretary

Absent from this evenings meeting were Lorinda Baker; District Treasurer and David Basler: District Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the July 11, 2018 Open Meeting.

MOTION (CZECH; CHIACCHIA): To approve the July 11, 2018 minutes to the Open Meeting. 3-0-0

Committee Reports:

None

Report of the Treasurer

Review of July 2018 Financial Statements:

Treasurer Lorinda Baker was absent so Vice Chairman Chiacchia read the July 2018 Financial Statements. 2 large payment were made in July; one to McClure Engineering and one for the insurance policy.

Water Department: Water receipts were low at \$7,500. This should increase in August now that the billing is due to be completed this week. The Water Department's cash balance is down by \$7,800 but will pick up when receipts start rolling in. The water meter account has a \$15,000 balance.

Fire Department: Nothing unusual.

District: Running at a surplus because it is increasing its district balance in preparation for the purchase of a new boiler and command vehicle. There is plenty of money appropriated for this so there should not be any issues. July had two medical insurance bills. Usually only one per month but two happened to fall in the month of July.

MOTION (CZECH; POBIEGLO): To accept the report of the Treasurer. 3-0-0

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; CZECH): To approve the Treasurers Warrant. 3-0-0

Report of the Fire Chief

Calls and Activity for the month of July 2018:

Fire Chief; Scott Turner distributed the "Report of the Fire Chief" for the month of July 2018.

Calls: 13

(A medical assist is generally a call to assist the ambulance with lifting a patient).

Inspections: 5 Fire Safety Inspections

Training Hours: Off month for training due to vacations.

Chiefs Meetings & Seminars: Chief Turner attended the Western Massachusetts Chiefs Meeting.

Events: Monson Summerfest Parade

Status of Heating System Committee: No updates to report. The architect has contacted an HVAC engineer who is drawing up the specs, so we wait for that to be completed.

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; CZECH): To accept the report of the Fire Chief. 3-0-0

Report of the Water Superintendent

Water Superintendent Chris Connolly was present at this evenings meeting to give the Report of the Water Superintendent.

Report on current condition of water distribution system compliance with ACOP:

Daily readings, monthly readings and & quarterly water sample-status update including submission to lab and Mass DEP: Rich has finished all the July water meter readings, proceeding to print and mail out bills. All bills should be mailed out by the end of this week. All monthly and quarterly water samples have been completed and submitted to Mass DEP according to TRFD sampling schedule.

New Business: On July 18 TRWD conducted repairs on the distribution system, repairing a leaking gate valve on Bourne St. and also replacing a 2" gate valve on Birch St. to help ensure the availability of a proper shut down to make repairs in case of future problems. On August 2 TRWD replaced the service line for 78 Bourne St. due to low flow from and existing leak in the service line.

Chris Connolly requested consideration in giving his part time laborer and secretary an increase in their wages. They have both been with the water department for about 1 to 1 ½ years. They have done exceptional work and are very much appreciated. The Committee discussed this briefly and agree that they should receive an increase but need to gather all facts, then this subject will be revisited, and a decision will be made at the next regular monthly meeting in September.

Vice Chairman Chiacchia commended the water department in completing the meter readings in 30 days.

Chairman Pobiegló would like to talk more seriously about contributing to an account as backup for any major expenses that the water department may incur. There will be events in the future that will cost the district a large amount of money. Having this backup account is necessary. Talk of adding a small fee on the district water billing could help to fund this emergency account. Currently there is a meter fee and water fee, an equipment replacement fund fee would be added if our district accountant agrees this is feasible. Chiacchia states that we already have a stabilization account for capital improvements for the water department, so basically all we would be doing is adding to this. Prior to now the funding came from a \$5,000 transfer. It is imperative this account gets built up over the next 10-year period.

Chris Connolly was asked about seeking out grants. There may be some repairs that could possibly be covered under a grant. Main topic was the water line that runs under the Main Street bridge that is scheduled to be repaired in 2019. If the bridge has sagged, then the water line possibly will have sagged along with it.

Strong interest is shown in revisiting the project on working with other Districts (Bondsville, Thorndike & Three Rivers) on public water supply. Chairman Pobiegló did say the Committee is on board with this project and would like to move forward with this again. There has been quite a sum of money spent on this to date.

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; CZECH): To accept the report of the Water Superintendent as read by Chris Connolly. Approved 3-0-0

Health Insurance Employee Contribution: The current premiums for active employees and retirees will not change from what is currently is. Active employees are paying 25% of the total premium and retirees are paying 20% of the total premium.

New / Old Business:

Fire Chief Scott Turner applied for two Federal Grants. The Engine Grant was denied. There is a backup plan for the engine and that is the Easthampton Fire Department received a new engine, so they are offering to sell their old engine to us at a very inexpensive price of \$500.00. Their engine is a 1995 where ours is a 1984. The main reason the 1984 needs to be replaced is due to safety issues. The 1995 is 10 years newer and considerably safer. The second grant was the SCVA Grant (Air Pack Grant). We have been awarded this grant and now can replace 12 of the 17 air packs we have. We turn in 12 now and get 12 brand new ones. Scott Air Pack will come out and present what they offer. Then Chief will have a representative from MSA come out. Doug from the Journal will be notified of this, so he can put the announcement of receiving this grant in the local newspaper.

The last item Chief requested was to schedule a District Meeting regarding replacement of the Command Vehicle. The Warrant needs to be drafted, then a regular Prudential Committee meeting needs to be held to approve the Warrant. The Prudential Committee meeting has been set for August 29, 2018 at 6:30 pm. At that point the District Meeting can be set for 14 days (2 weeks) after that.

The current Command vehicle has an appointment set to go to Les's. We only need to provide his tax ID #, he does not need to be approved as a vendor. A short discussion took place on what vendors we should use. It was recommended that Les's Labontes or Baldyga's would be the ones to use.

Public Comment:

None

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; CZECH): To adjourn from the Open Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Approved 3-0-0

Submitted by:

Approved as to Form and Content:

Sherrie Bellefleur, District Recording Secretary

Richard Pobiegllo, Chairman

Date: _____

Date: _____