



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
Richard Pobiegló; Prudential Committee Clerk
Scott Turner; Fire Chief

Chris Connolly; Water Superintendent
Chris McClure; District Engineer
Lorinda Baker; District Treasurer
Sherrie Bellefleur; District Recording Secretary

Absent from this evening's meeting was David Basler; District Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the July 17, 2019 Open Meeting.

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; POBIEGLO): To approve the July 17, 2019 minutes to the Open Meeting. 3-0-0

Public Comment:

None

Committee Reports:

None

Report of the Treasurer

Review of July 2019 Financial Reports:

Treasurer Lorinda Baker presented the July 2019 Financial Statements.

July 2019:

Water Department:

- Although the department had a loss for the month of \$5,936, we are still \$18,895 better than we were at this time last year. The difference appears to be the timing of the billings and collections as 2018 only had \$7,656 in revenue.

Fire Department:

- The furnace project bills have been paid and the project is finished.

District:

- Insurance bills of \$46,845 and Hampden County Retirement of \$ 21,910 were paid in July.
- A portion of the insurance bill will be allocated to the water department. Hampden County is paid in two installments. The water department pays the 2nd installment that is due in January 2020.
- District Accountant has stated not all year-end entries have been posted for projects and warrant articles.

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; POBIEGLO): To accept the Report of the Treasurer for July 2019. 3-0-0

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; POBIEGLO): To accept the Treasurers Warrant for July 2019. 3-0-0

Report of the Fire Chief

Calls and Activity for the month of July 2019:

Fire Chief; Scott Turner presented his Report of the Fire Chief.

Operations Calls/Incidents:

- **17 incidents:** 1 Fire; 6 Rescue & EMS; 1 Hazardous Condition (no fire); 2 Service Call; 2 Good Intent Call; 5 False Alarm & False Call.

Training:

- **Department:** July is an “off month” from department drills/training.
- **Duty Crew:** Hoseline operations, fire attack, and flammable liquids fires.

Events:

- No Events for the Month of July.

Administration:

- **Meetings:**
 - Easthampton Chief Mottor.

Fire Prevention:

- 3 Pre-Sale Home Inspections.

The house fire that took place at the end of Palmer Road has the remains of that home still standing completely fenced off. The question was asked as to when this home would be taken down and removed. Removal of this home is the plan, according to Chief Turner but it is not known when this will happen due to legal reasons. Stephen Chiacchia questioned this out of concern for someone possible being hurt in and around that area.

New Command Vehicle:

- The new command vehicle is in service and complete and all bills have been submitted for payment. By next month Chief will inform the Committee of the total cost of the vehicle.

Heating System:

- The heating system is complete.

District Records:

- The records are still being stored but the water department has purchased a scanner. Chief plans to share this new scanner with the water department.

Chief was asked to check into the cost of mass shooting kits which include tourniquets. Our EMS bags include a tourniquet and wraps with a sling. The price for the tourniquet alone is in the range of \$25 to \$35 and the kits run about \$110.00/each.

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

Report of the Water Superintendent

Water Superintendent Chris Connolly presented his report.

Status of water systems:

- There are no distribution or treatment problems to report.
- Monthly and Quarterly water samples and chemical addition forms required by Mass DEP are all up to date.

Discuss Water Agreement with Bondsville & Three Rivers Water Department:

- Engineer Chris McClure presented the Committee with his findings on the contract for the Interconnection with Three Rivers Fire and Water District & Bondsville. McClure did reach out to the USDA, they had loaned Bondsville the money for this project back in September 2018 and thought that this project would have been in the construction phase by now. Three Rivers had only heard that the loan had been approved approximately 2 months ago. McClure went over all the documents that he had obtained from the USDA and the engineering company. It included the project information with maps. McClure has found that there will be no cost to the Three Rivers District. This project includes connecting to our pump station but cannot be done without Three Rivers permission.

A lengthy discussion took place as to what Three Rivers needs to do at this point if we do plan to agree to this connection. The agreement does need to be gone through by the board. When work begins to be performed Three Rivers must have already in advance have approved exactly what is being done.

Chiacchia feels were on the right track with this and thanks Chris McClure for getting involved in this for the committee. He recommends that the Chairman ask Water Superintendent Connolly and Engineer McClure to get together to review the blueprints/plans of this project then get back to the board with recommendations.

MOTION (CHACCHIA; POBIEGLO): Three Rivers agrees in principal with the interconnection between Bondsville & Three Rivers. Approved 3-0-0

McClure says what is being asked is for Three Rivers to review and agree upon the flows mentioned in their document. Three Rivers should agree to provide 25-30 gpm for domestic use and 750 gpm for fire protection use and to receive 100 gpm from Bondsville when needed.

Three Rivers should also provide any plans or documentation showing the existing water main on Route 181 approaching the interconnection site. Is there currently a water main sleeve underneath the existing bridge? Are you aware whether DOT did their load calculations including any allowance for the pipe to be full of water?

District Records Overflow:

- o Discussed in the Report of the Fire Chief.

Rate Increase for Hydrant at Chudy's Corner:

- o W.S. Connolly has proposed that the rate for water at the Chudy's corner hydrant increase to \$5.00 (the same that residential is at). Capone fills up from this location and sells this for swimming pool fills. A short discussion took place about an agreed upon rate. Currently a truckload costs Capone \$25.00. The increased rate amount would bring the truckload to \$30.00. Committee member Pobiello feels we could go even higher than the \$5.00 without risk of losing the customer. The discussion continued and resulting in a motion being filed to raise the rate to the \$5.00.

MOTION (CHACCHIA; CZECH): To increase Capones water rate to \$5.00 per thousand gallons. Approved 2-1-0

Three Rivers Water requested a quote for sodium hydroxide from a few vendors. Our order would be too small to make it financially viable for one company, Surpass Chemical. No other vendors have called back yet.

8/4/2019 broken water service was repaired on High Street.

A routine sample taken from Stolar Insurance returned positive for total coliform. Within Three Rivers Water various samples were taken. All samples returned negative for total coliform the following day, and the DEP has been notified.

Nicole Dewberry, Three Rivers Water Department part time employee has been employed for a little over one year and Chris Connolly is requesting a raise for her of \$1.00 more per hour. This would increase her from \$22.00/hour to \$23.00/hour. He has performed a review and is very impressed with her work ethics; on time ever day and a hard worker. Her licensing consists of Distribution 1 and Treatment 1.

MOTION (POBIEGLO; CHACCHIA): To increase Part Time Water Department employee Nicole Dewberry from \$22.00/hour to \$23.00/hour. Approved 3-0-0

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

New Business:

None

Old Business:

Stephen Chiacchia discussed the outstanding legal bill of \$21,000 due to Mirick O'Connell. They would like to settle before it goes to court. We offered to settle at \$9,000 but that was rejected. Mirick O'Connell agreed to \$16,000.

Some discussion took place on the settlement offer. Pobiello disagrees with anything but \$10,000 but the remaining committee feels if we do not settle slightly higher, we may risk going to court and paying the full amount of \$21,000 along with more legal fees on top of that.

MOTION (CHACCHIA; CZECH): To give the attorney authorization for a maximum amount of \$12,000 toward the outstanding legal bills along with informing Mirick O'Connell that we need to go to a public meeting to approve the final settlement amount. Approved. 2-1-0

Code of Conduct:

Submitted by Dave Basler prior to this evening meeting his Code of Conduct Agreement. Chiacchia agrees with 98% of the contract. He suggests discussing this further with Basler, possibly at next months meeting.

MOTION (CHACCHIA; POBIEGLO): To table discussing the Code of Conduct until next month's meeting. Approved. 3-0-0

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

Board Members Comments:

Pobieglo would like to talk about Pathfinder on the use of the field near the pump station. There was a question from a parent, but no letters have been received to the Committee. The Committee states until they receive a letter in reference to using the field there is nothing to be done.

MOTION (POBIEGLO; CHACCHIA): To adjourn from the Open Meeting at 7:58 p.m. Approved 3-0-0

Submitted by:

Sherrie Bellefleur, District Recording Secretary

Date: _____

Approved as to Form and Content:

Norman Czech, Chairman

Date: _____