



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

Prudential Committee Minutes

Chairman Richard Pobiegló called a meeting of the Prudential Committee to order at 6:34 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Richard Pobiegló; Prudential Committee Chairman
Stephen Chiacchia; Prudential Committee Vice Chairman
Norman Czech; Prudential Committee Clerk
Scott Turner; Fire Chief

Chris Connolly; Water Superintendent
Lorinda Baker; District Treasurer
David Basler; District Clerk
Sherrie Bellefleur; District Recording Secretary

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee reviewed and approved the minutes from the September 12, 2018 Open Meeting.

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; CZECH): To approve the September 12, 2018 minutes to the Open Meeting. 3-0-0

Public Comment:

None

Committee Reports:

No Committee Reports tonight but a recommendation was made that the Finance Committee should start working on the budgets. Also, a meeting should be held to discuss the expenditure for the new Chiefs vehicle. Treasurer Baker has said she e-filed all the necessary forms and was cleared to schedule a meeting 30 days out.

Report of the Treasurer

Review of September 2018 Financial Statements:

Treasurer Lorinda Baker presented the September 2018 Financial Statements.

Water Department:

- Water revenue was \$25,910 for the month.
- YTD revenue is \$104,813. September 2017 YTD revenue was \$116,965 – difficult to compare with prior year because timing of bills being sent out is different in each year.
- YTD repairs are at \$12,830 vs only \$2,129 from last year. Budget is \$30,000.
- Checking account balance at 9/30/2018 was \$47,435.
- Water repairs were higher in September due to there being quite a few outstanding invoices that were just billed to us. Work that was done approximately 3 or 4 months ago was just billed and paid now reflecting on this September financial statement,

Fire Department:

- Nothing significant in September 2018.

District:

- Nothing significant in September 2018.

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; CZECH): 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 September 2018:

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

Operations Calls/Incidents:

11 incidents which included 1 cooking fire, 1 EMS assist, 1 motor vehicle accident, 1 smoke removal, 2 public service incidents, 1 unauthorized burning, 2 alarm system activations, 1 smoke detector activation, and 1 carbon monoxide detector activation.

Meetings:

- Chief Turner attended the Fire Chiefs Association Meeting in West Springfield.
- Met with the representative from Five Star, (the group we purchased Engine 1 through).
- Additional storage and shelving options were looked at.
- Met with Roberts Printing for lettering on replacement apparatus 2.
- Met with senior staff regarding the ALICE Training and future fire drills.

Fire Prevention:

- 1 Pre-sale home inspection
- 2 Fire Safety programs with Palmer/Monson family network.
- 1 Fire Drill at Pathfinder

Training:

- Rope Rescue
- Driver Operator Pumping Operations Training
- Duty crew does online training through the fire academy, a 2 to 4-hour training; Chemical Suicide Awareness for First Responders.
- Water Supply Driver Operator in house training and Medical Response also an in-house training.
- A donation was received of pet oxygen masks from BECO Electric. If there is ever the need the guidance to aide a family pet is now available after some training.
- Ladder Training.
- 3 members completed their Fire Prevention Officer basic training.

BECO also wants to donate to the Memorial in the front of the fire department.

New Door Locks:

The company that is installing the new door locks must create an account with the company that provides the software for programing the cards or key fobs. Once they obtain this account they can receive the training to program the computer. Once that is completed they will come in and enter all the information on the computer at the fire station to create the cards or fobs assigned to specific names. If a member leaves the department for whatever reason the card or fob can be immediately de-activated.

Chairman Pobieglo at this time has asked for some clarifications and would like to express concerns that he has.

- Duty Crew clarification is the 2-man crew that is at the station during the day. This crew takes online courses alternately on one computer at the station. The schedule this crew is to follow is to come in and check their equipment, check the board to see what their assignments are, station maintenance; cleaning the station or cleaning the trucks that they are assigned to. This crew is at the station for an 8-hour day, making approximately \$20 to \$22 per hour, and they are allowed a break.
- Clarification also of the chain of command was discussed. This coming from an issue of Chairman Pobieglo questioning an officer about his duties. After this took place Chief Turner addressed the question and concern with an email. Chairman feels the issue could have been handled differently than it was.
- Chairman Pobieglo requested from Chief Turner a roster of active crew members. This will be supplied but the total count is 21. The attendance on the 21-man crew was discussed; during the day the attendance is limited due to work schedules, which is why there is a duty crew there during the day. The worse attendance currently is on Tuesday evenings.

- Chairman Pobiegló took a walk around the station with board member Czech. He feels after that the station could use some clean-up. He would also like the vehicles in the front of the station removed. The Huan needs to be put out to bid and then look for a purchaser. There is a firefighter from Rhode Island that is interested in the Huan as a memorial for a fellow firefighter.

MOTION (CZECH; CHIACCHIA): To sell the Huan for \$1.00 to Rhode Island to be used as a memorial for a fallen firefighter. 3-0-0

- Chief states the red pickup truck is out of service due to the cost to repair this. A response is pending from the district fire warden to confirm that we received this through the Department of Defense (DOD) Program and not the excess property. If both vehicles are DOD, then the department/district owns them and that means the district can do whatever they want with them. Chief plans to use them for jaws of life training. Chief will contact them to see about getting this resolved by the end of this week.

Chief Turner has asked to address this even though he is not required to. Chief states that all administration concerns need to be addressed to the Fire Chief directly. Chief also notes that the station today compared to what it looked like before he started here is a major improvement. He's worked hard to get the station to the appearance it is in today.

Committee member Czech spoke to say he does feel that they, the Committee are Chief Turner's boss, but Chief Turner is the boss of his crew.

MOTION (CZECH; CHIACCHIA): 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.

Status of water study for Bondsville, Thorndike and Three Rivers:

Water Superintendent was able to obtain the study done in 2012. A brief synopsis is, there are quite a few deficiencies in each of the districts. Those deficiencies were related to certain amounts of water that could flow to certain parts of the town to fight fires. Three Rivers doesn't seem to have a big gain in undergoing this project. The gain leans more toward Bondsville and Thorndike. It shows that Bondsville has had an inadequate supply projected for 2030 and combining our systems would alleviate that problem. Bondsville also needs a new storage tank. If we connected at the 181 corridor the gain would be the three districts would be able to rely on one another in the event of an emergency. It is not to say there is no benefit from the connection, but it would cost a lot of money to connect. A government grant could be applied for jointly. The study says that a connection to the center of Bondsville would cost approximately \$600,000. If Bondsville needed water right now they could most definitely get some from Thorndike. Bondsville's tank is currently 12 feet lower than our tank. This means we would be overflowing them if connected. Chairman contacted David Lavalley but has not heard back from him yet. Norman Czech volunteered to talk to Paul Burns on setting up a meeting to discuss this study. The Board suggest that we look at the cost to connect the districts at the pump station (or to wherever Bondsville connection is). The districts should all split the cost this project equally if they were to follow through with connecting.

Status of water systems:

The treatment distribution is going well. All water samples, monthly and quarterly have been submitted and everything is being reported.

New Business:

John Maslon of 2075 Pleasant Street, Three Rivers has requested an abatement of his water bill. He feels it is too high and does not feel he should have to pay. Water Superintendent suggest the abatement be denied. The board suggests that the abatement be denied.

MOTION (CHIACCHIA; CZECH): To deny John Maslon's request for abatement. Approved 3-0-0

September 15, 2018 a call was received due to water emerging from the street. After excavating the sight, a service line that was leaking was found. Repairs have been made and the customers water was restored later that day.

October 2, 2018 Mass Rural Water Association (MRWA) helped conduct a leak detection survey. Two to three significant leaks were found and fixing these leaks will continue to save the district money. These leaks are still trying to be tracked down. Just since July

there have been 2 leaks found and fixed, one on Bourne Street and the other on Ford Street. Since then a 20% reduction in the production of the water has been seen. This is resulting in a yearly savings of approximately \$13,000.

Part Time Employee Benefits:

Chris would like to discuss part time employee benefits for Nicole. Nicole works 25 hours per week per Chris. The board along with Clerk Basler discussed this for a short time and resulted in looking further into this before establishing a definite amount of benefits.

MOTION (CHIAACCHIA; CZECH): To table this discussion of part time benefits for Nicole until more information is obtained.

Approved 3-0-0

October 9, 2018 was the start of the hydrant flushing for the second time this year, completion timeline was approximately two weeks and as of tonight it has been completed.

Chris signed up for a college class to obtain his last 3 credits for his Associates Degree. He asks if the board would consider reimbursing him for this after he completes the class.

MOTION (CHIAACCHIA; CZECH) To reimburse Chris Connolly for the college class he's enrolled into upon its completion. 3-0-0

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

New / Old:

None

Public Comment:

A public comment (Rodney) voiced his concern on an alleged call that was made to his home by Chairman Pobieglo requesting his attendance at this meeting. Pobieglo denied these allegations.

Another comment (Matt) was offended at the wording used earlier in the meeting about becoming professional. Chairman Pobieglo apologized for his use of the words, he did not intend to say what he said in that manner.

Chief Turner added that a firefighter must be trained to receive the \$2,000/year. There is no extra money other than certifications and advance training. If a private takes an officer class they do receive incentive pay.

MOTION (CHIAACCHIA; CZECH): To adjourn from the Open Meeting at 7:52 p.m. Approved 3-0-0

Submitted by:

Approved as to Form and Content:

Sherrie Bellefleur, District Recording Secretary

Richard Pobieglo, Chairman

Date: _____

Date: _____