

**THREE RIVERS FIRE DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
February 11, 2013**



IN ATTENDANCE:

Raymond Domey, Chairman	Diane Baldyga, Recording Secretary
William Jalbert, Clerk	Patrick O'Connor, former Fire Chief
Scott Turner, Fire Chief	Scott Majka, Water Department Employee
Antoinette (Toni) Mackenzie, Treasurer	

Chairman Domey called a meeting of the Prudential Committee to order at 7 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Vice Chairman Reim and W.S. Sasur were not present at the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the meeting of January 14, 2013.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To accept the minutes from the meeting of January 14, 2013. Approved 2-0.

Report of the Treasurer

Treasurer MacKenzie presented the Committee with January's checks and the Profit and Loss Budget. Committee members took these items under consideration and review.

Jeanne Bacauskas, Billing and Collection Clerk for the Water District, and Treasurer MacKenzie are meeting on Wednesdays from 2-4 p.m. to acquaint MacKenzie with the Water Department's Quick Books accounts and software. At some point W.S. Sasur, a consultant, and MacKenzie will all meet to coordinate the software systems.

A discussion of employee insurance and rates will take place at the next meeting. It was noted that the Fire Chief has turned in his paper work for his health insurance coverage.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To table the discussion and vote on health insurance until the March meeting. Approved 2-0.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To accept and approve the Treasurer's Warrant. Approved 2-0.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To accept and approve the Treasurer's Report. Approved 2-0.

Report of the Fire Chief

Fire Chief Turner submitted the call report for the month of January 2013. A total of nineteen (19) calls were received: eight (8) all calls and eleven (11) duty-officer calls.

Fire Chief Turner updated the Committee about the following items:

1. A new multigas detection device has been delivered to replace an obsolete one. It was purchased from Fire Tech & Safety of New England for \$1,050.
2. The search for a new rescue truck is continuing as the Fire Chief was outbid by the Town of Wales for the one he wanted.
3. Two paging systems are currently under consideration. Gary Majka has a scanner set up with the TRFD's computer that can send text messages to firefighters' phones. There is no cost for this system. However, it is limited compared to the extensive capabilities of "I Am Responding," which is a computerized program that immediately confirms who is responding to a call. Text messages are sent to cell phones and a GPS informs how quickly a firefighter can arrive at the station. It has a sign-out system as well as many other features. The cost is \$625 per year with a five-year contract. Turner is connecting it to the Department's paging system for a free two-month trial.
4. Fire Chief Turner's employment contract was sent to Attorney Hasset for his examination.

Fire Chief Turner requested permission to use the remaining funds in Article 9 for the multigas device.

MOTION (DOMEY, JALBERT): To use the remaining funds in Article 9 for the multigas detector. Approved 2-0.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To accept the report of the Fire Chief. Approved 2-0.

Report of the Water Superintendent

Since the Water Superintendent was attending meetings in Washington, DC, Scott Majka represented the Water Department. Because of W.S. Sasur's absence, the Committee chose to wait until next month's meeting to discuss and vote on the proposed increase in rates and fees.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To table discussion of water rate increases and fees until the March meeting. Approved 2-0.

Scott Majka updated the Committee about the following items:

1. W.S. Sasur had sent an email to Dan Laprade of the DEP requesting a written response on the proposed site for a Water Department Building and District Offices on Rt. 181. The Water Superintendent is awaiting a response from the DEP.
2. According to Donald Frydryk, Three Rivers' Well #3 is on the boundary line of Thorndike and "No man's land" that runs along the south side of the Ware River. Part of it is in Thorndike. Although this should not pose any problems, more information is needed from the Water Superintendent. Further discussion was postponed until W.S. Sasur is present.
3. Acquiring a second vehicle for the Water Department is ongoing. Research is being conducted online, through auctions by local dealers, and from state surplus. Utility box vehicles and pick-up trucks are both being considered. Diesel vehicles were discouraged by Chairman Domey.

A multi-district meeting took place on February 5 at the Bondsville Fire & Water District Office. Members from Bondsville's Fire & Water Department, Chairman Domey and Clerk Jalbert from Three Rivers, and two representatives from Tata & Howard were present. Due to a miscommunication with Thorndike and the illness and hospitalization of their liaison, Thorndike Fire and Water District did not attend. However, in a conversation with Chairman Domey, Thorndike Water Department Chairman, Russell Brown, pledged to work together with Three Rivers and Bondsville. Minutes of this meeting were kept by Bondsville's recording secretary, Rosalie Lopes. A copy will be added to our file but will not be published online.

The three Districts will meet again on March 5 at 7 p.m. at the Bondsville headquarters. The Districts feel that the Town Council should be notified of their cooperation, the Capital Efficiency Plan, and their desire to seek available grants.

During the meeting, the Three Rivers Prudential committee, acting as Water Commissioners, voted as follows:

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To accept the Capital Efficiency Plan adopted by Tata & Howard for the Districts. Approved 2-0.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To work together with the other Districts and move forward with implementation and funding including seeking available grants. Approved 2-0.

Chairman Domey reminded the Committee that Three Rivers had funded this project in the amount of \$30,000. In keeping with a plan prepared by Rosalie Lopes which used the customer base of each District, Thorndike and Bondsville should now pay their allotted share of the cost. Domey asked Treasurer MacKenzie to inform Stephen Marhelewicz of this matter.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To collect money for the Capital Efficiency Study and Report from the other Districts. Approved 2-0.

Scott Majka informed the Committee that although he has passed the D1 test, the State denied issuing the License despite his efforts to substantiate his past working experience. He needs the D1 License in hand to take the D2 test. He is trying to resolve this with letters from past employers in Thorndike and Paxton. He had signed up for the Treatment Test, but it was canceled. He must sign up again for the next test.

When W.S. Sasur is out of Town, Majka takes over. The Water Superintendent mixes and sets everything up, and Majka just has to record information and check the system for leaks. Majka said he has \$25 a week taken out of his paycheck to reimburse the District for his educational expenses. Chairman Domey commented that the amount of reimbursement should be higher as he owes between \$800 and \$1,000. Majka inquired whether his hourly rate might be increased to \$20 as he has passed the D1 test and has his in-training license. Further discussion was postponed until all Committee members are present.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To accept the report of the Water Superintendent. Approved 2-0.

Old Business

Town Manager Charles Blanchard, Representative Todd Smola, Attorney Michael Hassett, W.S. John Sasur and Chairman Raymond Domey met on February 4 to discuss moving ahead on the Rt. 20 Project. Blanchard will schedule a meeting between the Three Rivers Prudential Committee and the Palmer Prudential Committee to come up with an agreement on the property.

Al Nardi sent information on the Anderson Street Project to a pricing firm. When costs are determined, the project will be sent out for bid.

Chairman Domey met with Attorney Hassett on February 4 to review the contract on the Pilot agreement for the Photovoltaic Project. At first glance, the contract was sloppy and confusing. Hassett will consult with a legal firm who writes these agreements for the Commonwealth for a more informed opinion.

Chairman Domey believes the District will be given the option to come up with an agreement or have the right of first refusal regarding the 10 acre parcel of land at 105 North Street.

A records retention company was found in Connecticut who will store from 1 to 250 boxes for \$85 a month. It already stores records for hospitals in the area. Over thirty-five boxes of records are stored at Steve Marhelewicz' office. Further discussion will be held when the entire Committee is present.

New Business

Under new business, Chairman Domey presented the following items:

- 1. To advertise for a new Treasurer in the newspaper.
- 2. To work on the new fiscal budget as it needs to be done for the last Monday in March.

Having no further business to conduct in open session, Chairman Domey requested a motion to adjourn. The next regular meeting is scheduled at 7 p.m. on March 11, 2013.

MOTION (JALBERT, DOMEY): To adjourn from the Open Meeting at 8:05 p.m. Approved 2-0.

Submitted by:

Approved as to Form and Content:

Diane Baldyga, Recording Secretary

Raymond Domey, Chairman

Date:_____

Date:_____