

**BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT  
1841 PHINNEY'S LANE  
BARNSTABLE, MA 02630**

**PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES FEBRUARY 14, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Prudential Committee Chairman William Jones at 4:00 PM. Also in attendance was Prudential Committee members Peter Eastman and Joshua Miller, Water Commissioners David Jones, Evelyn Bassett and Stephen Whitmore, Fire Chief Frank Pulsifer, Interim Treasurer Eric Kinsherb and Clerk Charles Eager.

**Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of January 10, 2017 meeting. Motion made, seconded and passed to accept December 13, 2016 and January 10, 2017 minutes.**

**Water Department:**

- On budget for year department has spent 55% of budget over 58% of year.
- Attorney's preliminary reports on reimbursement of property taxes charged on solar array by the Town of Barnstable must be paid.
- Water Department hired a new employee Chuck Woods for the position of 1<sup>st</sup> Serviceman. Scott Heslip is the 2<sup>nd</sup> serviceman. Ron Tivey promoted to Senior Operator.
- Operating and Capital budget presented to Prudential Committee. The Water Department operating budget increase 1.6%.

**Fire Department:**

- Slightly over budget for FY 2017.
- Incident volume slightly over last year.
- Ambulance Billing Concerns – Medical interpretation of ALS 1 billing.
  - Recent dispute with Cataldo Ambulance regarding assessments and skills performed and the way some trips were billed.
  - Resulted in a \$600,000 settlement with Cataldo to Medicare.
  - Medicaid can apply to emergency providers, do a 12 month look back, and ask for triple damages if discovered fraudulent billing occurred.
  - Comstar assured the Chief will not impact the District.
- Billing Rate for Ambulance Services.
  - Proposed legislation is being considered which would limit emergency ambulance rates at Medicaid level.
  - Cost to the District is \$144,000 in revenue.
  - Chief has already reached out to our legislative representatives to excess opposition.
- Deputy Burke recently graduated Massachusetts Chief Fire Officer Program at Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. 14-week program that focused on leadership and management skills in

municipal government. Involved comprehensive testing, research and applied research project to graduate.

- EMS Officer Position
  - Firefighter Robert Cecil recently stepped down as EMS Officer after nearly 9 years.
  - After application, screening and interview process Firefighter Brian Tyson was selected to be appointed to the position.
- Operating and Capital budgets presented to Prudential Committee.

**Treasurer:**

- The Interim Treasurer presented draft budget. There is a 12% increase in health insurance. Treasurer will attend Cape Cod Municipal Health Group meeting in March.

**Clerk:**

- Annual Meeting conflict at BWB on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Check to see if BWB is open on May 15<sup>th</sup>. If BWB is unavailable, then we you hold the meeting on the apparatus floor at the Fire Station on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Prudential:**

- Motion made by Peter Eastman made Eric Kinsherb the official representative of the District to the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
- Rich Buffington is interested in the Treasurer's position. Meeting is set for March 1, 2017 at 4:30 PM to negotiate with Rich Buffington about the position.
- Join meeting with Board of Water Commissioners and Prudential Committee on March 7, 2016 to discuss budgets at 4:00 PM. Prudential will meet with the Fire Department at 4:30 PM on March 7, 2016 to discuss budgets.

**Motion made, seconded and adjourn the meeting.**

**Next meeting scheduled for March 14, 2017 at 4:00 PM.**