

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

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MINUTES APRIL 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Prudential Committee Chairman Peter Eastman at 4:00 PM. Also in attendance was Prudential Committee member Joshua Miller, Water Commissioners David Jones, Evelyn Bassett and Stephen Whitmore, Fire Chief Frank Pulsifer, Deputy Chief Peter Burke, Treasurer Richard Buffington, Water Superintendent Thomas Rooney, District Counsel Charles Sabbatt and Clerk Charles Eager.

Motion made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes of March 14, 2017.

Water Department:

- On budget for year department has spent 65% of budget over 75% of year.
- Andy Maher called the Water Department who is the developer doing the Barrel Hill development. He is doing three lots off Maushop Avenue. His development plan has extending at the end of Maushop Avenue Offshoot Road to service two of the lots. He is now proposing to collapse the subdivision plan for Offshoot Road and just extend a driveway into the house. He proposed the road originally to change the Water Department's access to Tank 1. Currently the Water Department is using a wood road off Pine Lane. When the sale of land to the District was made the 1936 easement to access the tank was extinguished. The reason it was extinguished was once Barrel Hill Road was finished the District would only need an easement from Barrel Hill Road to the tank sight. There is a legal dispute on the easement. The District's and Counsel's position is because Barrel Hill Road is still in force. Mr. Maher was approached by Mr. Joseph Dugas that they would like to purchase one of the lot adjoining his daughter's property and have it go into open with the 17 acres the District previously purchase from the Bush/Browns. The abutters were willing to pay a purchase price of \$250,000 with the abutters paying \$50,000 and the Barnstable Land Trust and Barnstable Fire District would be paying the rest of the money.

Fire Department:

- Slightly over budget for FY 2017 (1%).
- Incident volume 2% over last year. 25 calls over last year mostly due winter storms.
- Paramedic candidate will be re-testing at the end of April.
- Ambulance 203 is back in service. The loaner from Hyannis worked out well. It maintained continuity of operations without relying on mutual aid.
- Ambulance Billing Concerns
 - 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 express opposition.
- This will be a topic at the Cape and Island legislative meeting in March between the fire chiefs and the legislators.
- Chief requests District official to also contact legislators and Massachusetts Municipal Association Director John Robertson to voice their opposition to the Governor's proposal at reducing insurance reimbursement.
- Regarding the ambulance billing rate concern. Initially there was some confusion between the two separate EMS concerns. Representative Whalen has been advised on the Chief's and Prudential Committee position on each. There is currently no bill on the table limiting ambulance billing rate to Medicare rates. There is a report under consideration in the House Ways and Means Committee.

Treasurer:

- Free Cash certification in a few days.
- Audit will be completed in 2 to 3 weeks.
- Sunset articles about \$4,400.
- Insurance Advisory Board met on District's savings. Now it goes to the next step with Public Employee Committee for mitigation negotiations.

Clerk:

- Question if we will have a May meeting?
- Election is May 6, 2017 and Meeting May 15, 2017.
- District Counsel had a question on the bonding article. It was explained the wording had come from Bond Counsel. It was decided to leave it as is.

Prudential:

- At this time there will be no May meeting.

Motion made, seconded and adjourn the meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for May 9, 2017 at 4:00 PM.