

Minutes of Prudential Committee Meeting
January 4, 2016

Present: David Zamojski, Chairman, Prudential Committee
Jay DiPucchio, Prudential Committee Member
Rich Kuklewicz, Prudential Committee Member
Bob Escott, Fire Chief
Eileen Tela, District Accountant
Steve Constantine, Finance Committee

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes of prior meetings– Minutes were approved for the November 30th meeting.

Invoice warrants – were reviewed and signed by the Prudential Committee.

Chief's Report

Chief proposed a plan for adding two additional firefighters to address the problem of a shortage of manpower. This would work out where a third person would be on shift during the day when it is typically busier. They could fill in for others scheduled for time off, but the savings would not cover the added cost by any means. Discussion followed about the time schedule of this added employee.

Bob noted that we need to make a decision if we are going ahead with one or two new employees so he can develop his budget for FY17.

Special Articles –

- 1 Replacement of Deputy's car with pickup truck.
- 2 Driveway – needs to be torn up and base needs to be built up. Bob thinks we can live with current driveway for another year or two. Concrete driveways may last a bit longer, but are much more difficult to replace than asphalt when the time comes.
3. Chief is thinking of retiring this summer. Unused vacation and sick time will need to be accounted for.
4. Transfer to stabilization fund for future purchase of ladder truck

Bucket truck was recently sold for \$21,507.

Discussion followed about the need for Turners and Montague Center Fire Districts to collaborate. Additional manpower for our department was again discussed. This would aid in the additional manpower needed if we were to become a primary ambulance service for our District.

Ambulance vehicle – Bob expressed concern about need for a newer ambulance. Discussion followed about a lease on a newer used ambulance. Bob would like to keep our current ambulance to be used as a backup one. There will be enough room to garage the second one.

Calls – 97 calls in December; 1200 calls year- to- date.

Call force – There have been 315 calls for the call force. We are now down to 12 call force members, but Bob has 3 applications on his desk. Because of change in minimum wage, we had to bump up starting pay to \$10/hr. for call force.

Ambulance will be going in for significant repair of cross members, one of which is rotted out. This is what holds box onto the frame.

Accountant's Report

Funding for the OPEB obligation needs to be considered as a Special Article.

Free cash information has not yet been submitted.

We have not received an update on the Special Legislation for ambulance fund.

Next meeting will be held on Monday February 1, 2016 at 5:00 p.m

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.