

Minutes of Prudential Committee & Finance Committee Meeting
January 17, 2018

Present: David Zamojski, Chairman, Prudential Committee
Jay DiPucchio, Prudential Committee
John Greene, Prudential Committee
John Zellmann, Fire Chief
Eileen Tela, District Accountant
Don Reid, Finance Committee
Steve Constantine, Finance Committee
Allyson Chabot, Finance Committee
David Thompson, Finance Committee

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

Minutes were accepted for the January 14th meeting.

Invoice warrants were reviewed and signed.

TIF Military Policy - Captain Brunelle spoke about the new policy and noted that he would like to see a change in that he would be allowed to receive full pay for the shift for the Friday evening before he has to report early for military duty on the weekend. He noted that with rotating shifts, this would be actually not be happening for the remainder of this military fiscal year, which ends in October, but every year it can be different and may happen about twice a per year or so.

Prudential Committee will revisit this at our next meeting. We will check with our attorney to see if it would be discriminatory if we offered a benefit to one who is grandfathered in our system, and not to any new employees. Todd left at this time.

TIF (Tax Increment Financing) Agreement request from Ja'Duke - We just received an updated version of the TIF agreement. We need to schedule a Special District Meeting before our annual meeting to have our voters approve this TIF, as Ja'Duke wants to move forward on this project.

FY19 Budgets & Special Articles – Subject of additional fire manpower was brought up, but it may not be feasible for this coming year. Special Articles suggested include repairs to driveway, and dollars transferred to Stabilization for the ladder truck. Chief is working on a grant request for the ladder truck, so he recommends that we don't ask for funding for this now from our voters. Replacement of current ambulance was discussed. Due to the age of the current ambulance, a 2001, it may be better to replace it rather than keeping this one as a backup to a newer one. Chief handed out drafts of fire and ambulance budgets and reviewed line items.

Run Report - In December there were 103 calls of which 48 were EMS, including 7 transports.

Ladder truck - It has developed a water leak at the base of the aerial. Estimate is \$18,300. Doesn't interfere with the operation of the truck. Suggestion was made to have a special article account for major repairs of fire vehicles. Grant for replacement of the ladder truck was discussed. Requested purchase price must be 1 million or lower for the grant.

FY19 General Government budget was reviewed. Few line items need to be determined. Health insurance increases for FY19 were announced at the Hampshire Group Insurance Trust January meeting, Insurance for the single HMO plan would have risen by 16%, but with the new retail drug deductible, and higher co-pays, the rate has been adjusted to 9.6% for this coverage for FY19. Family and employee +1 plans are not as high of an increase. OPEB funding will be considered as a special article.

Streetlights- Eversource will be able to replace streetlights with LED's in the near future, but it would still require that our town purchase all the current lights within Montague. We still need to turn off some lights on Avenue A.

FY17 Audited Financial Statements were handed out – no management letter of comments this year.

Next meeting on Monday, February 5 at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.