

Minutes of Prudential Committee & Finance Committee Meeting
September 3, 2019

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes were approved for the meeting of June 18th.

Invoice warrants were reviewed and signed.

It was decided to change our meeting days to first Tuesday of the month.

Chief's contract – was reviewed. Motion was made by David to accept the Chief's three-year contract from July 2019 through June 2022. It was seconded by John Greene and contract was signed by Prudential Committee.

M.O.U. – Chief presented copy of M.O.U. for extended sick leave and modified duty agreement for injured firefighter. Prudential Committee signed the agreement. Firefighter returned to work about two weeks ago. There will be a sick leave bank established when his own time is all used, with sick hours donated by other firefighters

New firefighter hire – We've received several applications and plan on interviewing five candidates, scheduled for mid-September (later scheduled for September 25).

Call force update – We now have 8 call firefighters on our roster, but 2 are out with ACL injuries and 1 will age out next year. We could be down to 5 shortly. We use the PT test (work capacity test) for call force members.

Driveway project – Chief contacted 5 companies and received one quote, which was \$26,500 from Bernard Concrete along with \$9,000 quote from Demers Excavating. It was discussed that due to the dollar amount letters should be sent out requesting quotes.

META Grant – Eileen, Chris Mason from the Montague Energy Committee, and David had a phone conversation with George Woodbury from LightSmart Energy. We decided to move forward with a contract with LightSmart, but noted that we are not ready to request to be put on waiting list for a Massachusetts DOER (Dept. of Energy Resources) grant for LED conversion. George sent us a draft of a typical contract, which we modified. Both parties signed the contract to request LED streetlight information only.

FirstLight – The Town of Montague finally reached a settlement agreement with FirstLight relating to the past and current assessed value of their property. This affects the District in that

no abatements will be issued for fiscal years 14, 15 & 16, , but for fiscal years 17, 18 and 19 the District will issue an abatement of \$137,541, with the balance in overlay to be released to us by the Assessors as determined by them.

Run report – We had 125 calls for June, of which 73 were EMS, including 23 transports. For July, we had 119 calls, of which 70 were EMS, with 12 transports. For August, we had 84 total calls, 41 being EMS with 14 transports

Ambulance contract – The Town of Montague will have a contract with AMR shortly. They have received a draft of the contract and should sign it shortly. There will again be no cost to the Town for this.

Captain's interviews will be tomorrow morning, September 4.

New DPW Garage Easement – The Town will be voting on a permanent easement with the District at their Special Town Meeting on October 2. We will be voting on it at our annual District Meeting next April.

Old ladder truck - Chief was all set to sell the old ladder truck but he was approached by Fire academy requested to use ladder truck for training. Someone will be out to check it out.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for October 1st.