

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE



TURNERS FALLS FIRE DISTRICT

226 MILLERS FALLS ROAD
TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

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Prudential Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Oct 4, 2023

Time of Meeting: 5 PM

Location: Turners Falls Fire Department
226 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Present at meeting:

Kenneth McCance Prudential Committee Chair
Leon Ambo Prudential Committee
Todd Brunelle Fire Chief
Eduard Bublik District Accountant
Bruce Merriam, Water Commissioner, Chair
Ed Pelis, Water Commissioner
Ken Morin, Water Commissioner
Jeffrey Hildreth, Water Superintendent

The Prudential Committee meeting of the Turners Falls Fire District (TFFD) was called to order at 5 PM on July 5, 2023 at the Turners Falls, District Office.

A. Review and Acceptance of prior minutes: The Minutes from 5/2/23 meeting were reviewed and had a few corrections, Corrected version is attached.

Water Superintendent Report:

Water Treated

Aug 20.3 Million Gallons
Sept 17 Million Gallons

Water Consumption:

Aug: 622,000 Daily Average
Sept: 612,000 Daily Average

Bi-Annual Filter plant inspection

Everything went good

Meter Reading

Was started on the 2nd of Oct and is already completed

New Hires

Austin Felix started working on the Sept 18th and

Water Analysis

All water quality tests came back good

Lead Service Line (LSL) Update:

Tate and Howard is currently working on project.

Locks

All the Locks have been changed out

Houses that are to be developed on 1st St

The question on where the water line will be connected needs to be resolved

Hiring of a New Water Operator

We are still down one water operator. The search for the new water operator will being once Austin Felix is comfortable doing his work.

Water Rates:

A new water rate schedule was voted on and is approved beginning Jan 1st, 2024. There will be an extra meter read to separate the rate change from usage prior to Jan 1st, 2024, which used the old rate, and usage after that date.

In District Usage

| Usage(In Gallons) | <12,000 | 13,000-200,000 | 201,000-400,000 | 401,000-600,000 | 601,000-800,000 | 801,000-1,000,000 | >1,001,000 |
|---------------------------|---------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|
| Old Rates (Per 1,000 Gal) | \$35 | \$2.85 | \$3.05 | \$3.25 | \$3.45 | \$3.65 | \$3.85 |
| New Rates (Per 1,000 Gal) | \$47 | \$3.85 | \$4.10 | \$4.35 | \$4.60 | \$4.85 | \$5.10 |

Out of District Usage

| Usage(In Gallons) | <15,000 | 16,000-200,000 | 201,000-400,000 | 401,000-600,000 | 601,000-800,000 | 801,000-1,000,000 | >1,001,000 |
|---------------------------|---------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|
| Old Rates (Per 1,000 Gal) | \$80 | \$5.15 | \$5.35 | \$5.55 | \$5.75 | \$5.95 | \$6.15 |
| New Rates (Per 1,000 Gal) | \$92 | \$6.15 | \$6.40 | \$6.65 | \$6.90 | \$7.15 | \$7.40 |

Accountants Report:

Street light repairs: have been scheduled and repairs will be made on Friday Oct 6th.

Lake Pleasant streetlight cost to charge review

| LP Streetlights | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Residents | | Total |
| 80 | \$38 Yearly Charge/Per Resident | \$3,040 |
| | | |
| | FY23 Total Electric Exp | \$2,100 |
| | | |
| | Total Number of Streetlights | 17 |
| | | |
| | Replacement Light Cost per light | \$300 |
| | | |
| | Cobra Head Expected Life Years | 10 |
| | | |
| | Min Total Required Yearly Billing | \$2,610 |
| | Current Billing Surplus | \$430 |

Expenses Per Department July 2023- Sept 2023

Fire Department Expenses

- \$209,250

Ambulance Expenses

- \$15,550

General Gov't Expenses

- \$635,250

Water Dept. Expenses

- \$111,800

Chiefs Report:

1. Total Runs 1 July – 30 Sep =394

Fire = 135

EMS = 259

Transports = 82

Mutual Aid = 11 Given 7 Received

Overlapping Calls = 76 (19.29%)

2. Fire prevention permits issued = 31

Inspection fees collected \$1,550.50

3. Training

Career staff = 145 hrs.

Call Force = 25.5hrs.

A new online training platform has been implemented through the “Fire Academy”.

Members will be able to complete some of the state required annual training online while on duty, decreasing overtime costs. Other fire and EMS training is available including ISO specific fire related training.

4. Staffing- 3 new probationary Firefighter have begun work. All have completed a 3 week orientation prior to being assigned to their regular shifts. 2 members will attend MFA Recruit Training beginning in November and the 3rd is awaiting a start date. We are still reviewing applications to fill the remaining vacant position.

5. Captain Duty's- the following changes have taken place- Capt. Hartnett/EMS Officer, Capt. Ellis Public Education Officer, Captain Dane Training Officer, Capt. Currie Health and Safety Officer

Public Education: installed smoke detectors in 4 residents, attended 2 day Fire and Life Safety educators' conference. Participated in the 6th annual Senior Health and Safety Expo at the Schuetzen Verein in Gill.

Next meeting will be scheduled for November 1st.

Agenda for for next meeting

- 1) Call to Order**
- 2) Approval of last District meeting minutes**
- 3) Old Business**
- 4) Department report – Fire/Water**
- 5) Accountant report**
- 6) New Business**
- 7) Adjournment**

F. Meeting Adjourned at: 6:40 PM

G. Meeting Minutes submitted by: Eduard Bublik, District Accountant