

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE



TURNERS FALLS FIRE DISTRICT

226 MILLERS FALLS ROAD
TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376

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Prudential and Water Committee Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: Feb 7, 2024

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

Ken Morin, Water Commissioner

Luke Hartnett, Captain

Bruce Merriam, Water Commissioner, Chair

Ed Pelis, Water Commissioner

Jeffrey Hildreth, Water Superintendent

Suzanne Leh, Water Clerk

Water Commissioners Meeting:

The Water Commissioners Meeting of the Turners Falls Fire District (TFFD) was called to order at 5 PM on Feb 7, 2024 at the Turners Falls, District Office.

A. Review and Acceptance of prior minutes: Water Minutes were approved

Water Superintendent Report:

Water Treated in Jan: 19 Million Gallons, Increased due to water usage at Cabot station and Fire on H St

Consumption in Jan: 578,000 Gallons/day

1. Old Rod shop building needs service because our lines don't shut off all the way, and there is a leaking pipe.
2. Jeff is testing out the Diamond Maps software for a GPS mapping system for hydrants and valves.
3. We need three tablets to use the mapping software.
4. The transmitter that reads the reservoir was acting up, so a spare transmitter was calibrated.
5. Current Projects:
 - Airport main is in the ground.
 - Ken Brit came to the filter plant to look at the control box.

Accountant Report:

Accounts Payable Expenses for the month of January:

Expenses for the month of January are as follows:

Water Dept: \$30,003

We currently have 55% of the FY24 Budget remaining, amounting to \$403,243.

The accountant has suggested that we explore the possibility of raising water rates to align with the rising costs for FY25.

Other Water News

Ken Morin has provided a letter indicating that he will be concluding his term as a water commissioner in April.

Meeting Adjourned at: 5:28 PM

Prudential Committee Meeting:

The Prudential Committee meeting of the Turners Falls Fire District (TFFD) was called to order at 5:28 PM on Feb 7, 2024 at the Turners Falls, District Office.

Review and Acceptance of prior minutes: January's meeting minutes needed a revision.

Accountant Report:

Expenses for the month of January are as follows:

- General Gov't: \$128,304
- Fire Dept: \$11,229
- Ambulance: \$4,833
- Grant Expenses: \$595

Remaining Budget Percentages:

- General Gov't: 28%
- Fire Dept: 48%
- Ambulance: 13%

The annual meeting date is set for May 21, 2024.

Chiefs Report:

January, 2024 Chiefs' Report

1. Total Runs January =104

Fire = 15

EMS = 89

Transports = 34

Mutual Aid = 6 Given 1 Received

Overlapping Calls = 20 (19.23%)

2. Fire prevention

Inspection fees collected \$835.00

13 – Inspections

Implemented new open Burning permit process

1 consultation with landlord regarding a blocked egress (issue has been corrected)

- 3. Training – Special Recognition** – FF. Chapley and FF. Breault graduated from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA) 10 week Career Recruit training program. Each member earned Pro Board certification in Firefighter 1 and 2 as well as Hazardous Materials operations. FF. Carra has begun the same program and will graduate in March.

Training department hours completed = 414.5 hours

Capt. Hartnett attended (on his own time) a 40 hour program Presented by the Frontline Foundation on tools for the first responder to better cope with the impacts of job related PTSD. The impacts of this job on our members' mental health can take a great toll on them. I recommend that the district explore ways to assist our members in dealing with the unseen injuries of the job.

- 4. EMS CQI** of approximately 90 EMS incidents.
- 5. Child Passenger Safety Seat program:** A total of 6 car seat installations and inspections occurred throughout January.
- 6. Vehicle Maintenance:** A1, Utility, and Car 1 oil changes, Car1 new brakes and Tie rod

Obtained information and a quote to outfit **Ladder 1** with automatic tire chains.

The kit and installation will be Aprox. \$4,600

Health and Safety: All career members completed 3 hours of training from the MFA on cancer awareness in the fire service.

Contacted Firematic to begin the process of fixing the purge valves on MSA SCBA air packs, this is a design issue causing the purge valve on the SCBA respirator face piece to open and unnecessarily bleed breathing air from the cylinder.

Next meeting will be scheduled for Mar 6th 2024.

Agenda for next meeting

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

6) Adjournment

F. Meeting Adjourned at: 5:56 PM

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