

COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT

Prudential Committee

Executive Session

July 25, 2011

The meeting began with a discussion of the firefighters contract. Ms Kates expressed concern that the Prudential Committee had not been a part of the process. The history of the Prudential Committee's negotiating skills in the past was related. This has resulted in one member of the Prudential Committee participating and reporting back to the full committee.

Ms Kates felt we should at least have meet in a joint meeting with the Fire Commissioners before the contract was signed. She had been quite surprised when she went to Freedom Hall and found a union meeting, which had been called to approve the contract, in progress. Again, both Mr Barry and Ms Hadley felt it was the function of the Prudential Committee member on the negotiating committee to keep us informed.

Mr Barry then brought the committee up to date on some of the things in the contract. Management apparently looked at thirty-two items and prevailed on twenty-five. Many of the changes will not affect those currently working for the Cotuit Fire Department but will apply to any new hires. Longevity pay for all is gone. Step raised for education are also gone. The Captain's position has been abolished. The "presumptive injury" clause has been removed.

The union has been very cooperative. Apparently they feel it's more important to be able to increase the size of the department.

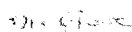
Raises will be 0-1-2 percent over the next three years.

Again, it was felt by Mr Barry and Ms Hadley that the union members had been very cooperative.

On the subject of on-going litigation, Ms Kates stated she felt we should be seeing the bills from the attorney. She compared it to a householder choosing to pay for some losses so that claims would no be so great that the insurance company might cancel.

She is concerned that we have given the Fire Department a blank check. Mr Barry reiterated that insurance is paying the bills, we did not create these law suits and must defend ourselves. Ms Kates wanted to know if there was no way to hurry the process. The response was that scheduling of trials is up to the court.

Respectfully submitted


Amy Maguire Kates