

COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT  
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Regular meeting  
November 28, 2011

The meeting was called to order by the chairman. Also present were members Rick Barry and Amy McGuire Kates.

The first item on the agenda was acceptance of the minutes. These included minutes for the regular meeting in October, the first special meeting in November and the second special meeting in November. Ms Kates called attention to the last paragraph of the October and objected to a sentence that read "She was apparently upset that she had not been given an opportunity to vote on the contract." She believed she had said that the by-laws supported the position that the Prudential Committee should be "a party to all contracts;" and that, as there was only one member of the Prudential Committee that served on the union negotiation committee, and that one member of the Prudential Committee couldn't bind the entire Prudential Committee. She believed that was her comment. Ms Hadley felt they had been apprised in executive session of the financial aspect of the contract. She further felt their mandate only applied to the financial aspects of the contract. Ms Kates wanted the minutes to reflect that the Prudential Committee, according to the bylaws, is a party to all contracts. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as amended and was unanimously adopted.

The minutes of the special meeting held on November 10, 2011, were then addressed. Ms Kates referred to the fifth paragraph of the minutes quoting the sentence "After much discussion, some quite heated, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously." She felt they should reflect that she felt the motion might be more complete. A motion to approve the minutes of the November 10 meeting was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

The minutes of the special meeting held on November 16, 2011, were then discussed. A motion was made and seconded to accept these minutes and passed unanimously.

The Treasurer's reports were then addressed. The chairman thanked the Treasurer for providing these reports before the date of the meeting. Mr Barry requested that the report be postponed until later in the meeting as he had not had a chance to review them.

The chairman presented a letter which had to be signed in connection with the current audit (2010). Ms Kates requested an explanation for the signatures required. The Treasurer explained that each person is only attesting to any information they may have provided. The members of the committee agreed that the chairman should sign it.

The committee then addressed the insurance policy for the street lights. The document received by the chairman authorizes the renewal of the policy and whether or not coverage for terrorist activities should be included. A motion was made and seconded that we not elect coverage for terrorism. It passed unanimously and the document was signed.

The chairman advised the members of the committee that an open meeting law complaint had been received. It had been filed by Joan Geggatt and concerned the executive session listed for the meeting held on September 26, 2011. Copies were provided to the members. She further referenced a letter from the Attorney General's office setting December 5 as the deadline for answering the complaint. Ms Hadley reported she had spoken with Ms Geggatt to determine the cause for the complaint. Ms Geggatt apparently felt the meeting was about her and felt we had violated the law by not informing her of her right to be present with representation. Although the meeting was not about Ms Geggatt, she still felt the notice was in violation of the open meeting law as it did not name the non-union employee under discussion. She further gave the members a copy of a letter she had drafted to the AG and Ms Geggatt. A motion was made to release the executive session minutes of the meeting September 26 and attach them to the letter to the AG. It was seconded and amended to include all executive session minutes. It passed unanimously.

Ms Kates requested that the treasurer explain the ramifications of the vote taken at District meeting not to use free cash. The Prudential Committee had made recommendations to raise and appropriate on several articles. During the meeting, people in attendance suggested using free cash instead on several articles. However, when it came to the article which would transfer free cash to reduce the tax levy, as requested by the Prudential Committee, the article was voted down. This will result in quite a jump in the tax rate for the District.

Mr Barry asked the Treasurer when free cash would be certified. Ms Murray said there is no specific date, as long as it's done before the District meeting. Several other questions were asked and answered concerning Freedom Hall expenditures to date. Liability for individuals involved in cleaning Freedom Hall, changing light bulbs, etc, was raised. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

Freedom Hall being the next item on the agenda, the chairman announced the names of the members of the Freedom Hall committee. They are Fran Parks, Chairman; Rich Boden, President of the Civic Association, the main users of the hall; and Alan Donheiser, a former Prudential Committee member. Jim Gould and Jessica Grassetti will also be meeting from time to time with the committee as advisors. A list of items to be addressed was passed to the members and a copy of the minutes of the committee. A motion was made to hire an electrician immediately to fix the emergency lights and the lights at the rear (exterior) of the building and any other problem areas identified by the fire chief. Ms Kates objected to the fire chief's involvement. The motion was seconded and passed with Ms Parks to be the one to make contact with an electrician.

A lengthy discussion of Ms Kates' role in scheduling Freedom Hall followed.

The chairman advised the members that she had contacted Mr Mycock concerning the lease of his property. Mr Barry asked if this had been prompted by the complaint alleging conflict of interest. She said the comments at the special district meeting were what prompted her to contact Mr Mycock. He now feels he doesn't want to take the time

and Mrs Hadley doesn't want to put the district to the expense to complete the process of avoiding such charges.

In the meantime, Mrs Hadley suggested that we go ahead with advertising for an assistant treasurer. Mr Michael Daley has offered to put on a workshop for us. Ms Kates objected on the grounds that we don't have a district office.. Mr Barry made a motion, which was seconded, that we have Mr Daley come to present his workshop at no expense to the District. Ms Kates demanded that further discussion be held and asked what the purpose of the workshop would be. It would cover what services a financial company like his can provide. The motion was then voted on and passed with two in favor (Barry and Hadley) and one opposed (Kates).

It was announced that no executive session would be held. A motion was made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. It passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

LAURIE C. HADLEY  
Chairman and Clerk