

Cotuit Fire District  
Prudential Committee  
2 June 2014 5:00 PM

Fran: All right. I'm going to call to order at 5:13 the June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014 meeting with the Cotuit Prudential Committee. First thing I want to ask is, anyone recording? You need to go to the microphone. Amy Kates is recording

Fran: Thank you. The Prudential Committee is conducted in compliance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law and Mass General Law Chapter 3A Sections 18 through 25. For regular meetings of the Prudential Committee, there should be a reasonable period of time for public comment prior to the Committee commencing its discussions and deliberations. The public does not participate in Committee discussions and/or deliberations. No person shall adjust a meeting of a public body without permission of the Chair and all persons shall at the request of the Chair be silent.

No person shall disrupt this proceeding or meeting of a public body. If after clear warning from the Chair a person continues to disrupt the proceedings, the Chair may order the person to withdraw from the meeting and if the person does not withdraw, the Chair may authorize a Constable or other officer to remove the person from the meeting, Mass General Law Chapter 3A Section 20F. First order of business is the organization of the committee.

#### Organization of the Committee

Laurie: I'd like to nominate Fran Parks as Chairman.

Marge: Second.

Fran: Thank you, I think.

Marge: You're promoted.

Fran: All those in favor?

Marge: Aye.

Laurie: Aye.

Fran: We need to have a volunteer for the Policy Advisory Committee. Mrs. Wallace has volunteered to be the Prudential Committee Representative to the policy advisory committee. Mrs. Hadley, do you wish to continue on the By-Law Committee?

Laurie: I would love to have you take it over. I'd like to do street lights.

Fran: I'd be glad to do the By-Law Committee and you can do street lights. I'm also going to take care of the minutes for the meetings.

Laurie: Thank you. I will continue to post the agendas.

#### Open Meeting law Complaint

Fran: We have an Open Law Meeting complaint which is the reason that we called this meeting. I do not have a copy of the complaint. It was my understanding that the previous chairman was going to be coming this evening with the copy of the complaint and Mr. Boudreau, the district lawyer, will be coming with copies of the complaint. Obviously, neither of those people are here this evening and the complainant isn't here this evening.

The complaint was about difficulty hearing in one particular meeting. I'm not exactly sure the meeting that that was referred to, but I went ahead and contacted the attorney general's office and it's only an Open Meeting Law complaint if people intentionally are speaking so that people can't understand what they're saying. I was referred to Open Meeting Law Decision 2014-3 which addresses that issue.

Also, we are required under the American with Disabilities Law to provide hearing assistance to people who have difficulty hearing. I've included in your packet copies of a sound system which is a personal hearing aid for up to four people. This is just one price. It can be attached to our sound system

Laurie: So that this price on the first page does not- the \$1300 is not the price

Fran: That's just for this particular unit, but it includes four hearing aids. Also if you go through it, there are several different headsets you can use. You can use the regular headset that has two earphones. You can use an ear bud. The problem with the ear bud is obviously you don't want to reuse- one person does not want to use somebody else's ear bud. What you can use is- it's in the last page- is an ear clip that fits over the ear and just has to be cleansed with alcohol in between uses.

Laurie: Okay. That seems like a very good-

Marge: Yes. That looks a lot better.

Cotuit Fire District  
Prudential Committee  
2 June 2014 5:00 PM

Fran: Those I believe are \$18 a piece for that. I'm sure they're interchangeable with other units.

Laurie: They work with, as you said, with this system?

Fran: Yes. There's a unit setup that's connected to the system and it sends out an FM signal to the hearing aid that the person has.

Laurie: Okay. Was Mr. Bodreau going to prepare a response to the OML complaint?

Fran: I thought so, but clearly I'm going to have to give him a call.

Laurie: Yes.

Fran: I'm assuming that what we're going to need to do is call another meeting to address this. I think since it's the attorney general's letter to us I believe it's two weeks' old.

Laurie: We're already late.

Fran: We're already late, so do we want to try and do this on Thursday?

Laurie: Sure.

Fran: Do you work on Thursday?

Laurie: I work, but I get through at 5:00.

Marge: Okay.

Fran: All right. Why don't we schedule another meeting for Thursday?

Laurie: I'll post it.

Fran: Thanks. Anything further? Marge? No?

Marge: Well, what if we have more need for hearing aids at a meeting than the number of units we have?

Fran: Then we'll have to purchase more.

Cotuit Fire District  
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2 June 2014 5:00 PM

Laurie: The price was only for the- the price of the one that Fran pointed out on the last page is only \$14. I think we could probably afford to buy three or four-

Fran: Are you talking about the ear piece?

Fran: Okay. This is Williams Sound which is one of the better ones as from what I understand from the research that I did. The cheapest I saw was \$325 or something. I think we have to, if we decide to do it, need to get some more information about them probably from Charlie's Music, the audio people.

Laurie: Okay, but I'm looking at the price here. It's only \$14 just to buy this product.

Fran: Yeah, just to buy that product.

Laurie: If it works with this, what else do we have to buy?

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Fran: We have to buy the transmitter and plus, these are the hearing aid units.

Laurie: Okay and it is \$13,000.

Fran: \$1,300.

Laurie: Oh, \$1,300. Okay.

Fran: I'll take a motion to adjourn.

Marge: So Moved.

Laurie: Second.

Fran: All in favor?

Laurie: Aye.

Marge: Aye.

Meeting Ajourned