

Prudential Committee
Cotuit Fire District
19 May 2014
5:00 PM

Members Present: Fran Parks, Laurie Hadley, Rick Barry

Fran Parks: I'm going to call the May 19th meeting of the Cotuit Prudential Committee to order. First order of business. Is anyone recording?

Amy Kates.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Fran Parks: Is there any public comment? Seeing no public comment. I'll move on to Freedom Hall.

FREEDOM HALL

Laurie Hadley: We have someone who wanted to see if you had anything to bring up tonight.

Fran Parks: The only thing is that Mr. Childs is finally going to be doing the limbing work to take care of the overgrowth over the roof and prune the rest of the plantings around the building. We've already discussed the state the Hall was left in by Westbay Antique.

Laurie Hadley: We'll notify them that they can't use the hall for estate sales in the future.

Fran Parks: Westbay. Any of the yard sales.

REVIEW ANNUAL MEETING WARRANTS

Fran Parks: I guess I'm going to pass over the final review of the annual meeting of warrant articles until Rick gets here.

375 COMMITTEE REQUEST

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The other thing I have is a request of the 375 Committee for the fire district to chip in for the purchase of a Welcome to Cotuit sign. That's the proposed sign. Burgundy. Proposed position of the sign is at the end of old Post Road at Putnam Avenue. This sign will be 34 inches high by 34 inches wide, one sided, which doesn't make any sense because you're going to be welcoming the people from Old Post Road to Cotuit.

Laurie Hadley: I have a question over whether we can legally pay for something like that.

Fran Parks: I agree. I don't think it's appropriate for the voters to pay for it. I think that if this is something someone desires to inflict on the village, I think it should be done through private donations.

Laurie Hadley: I agree.

Fran Parks: Would you make a motion to ...

Laurie Hadley: I make a motion we deny the request from the 375 Committee to partially pay for the welcome sign for Cotuit.

Fran Parks: Second. All in favor?

Laurie Hadley: Aye.

Fran Parks: Aye.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Did you get, regarding the health insurance?

Laurie Hadley: The health insurance? Yes I did.

Fran Parks: OK. I passed the requirement for reporting of including a cost savings analysis if the district had used GIC onto the Treasurer and I'm assuming he'll be able to compile that. Did West Barnstable get one? That's a request from Carol Cormier GBS consultant by June 30th.

Charlie Seager: I probably did. I haven't seen it.

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Laurie Hadley: This is for people who did not use Chapter 38 Sections 21 and 22. Didn't we do that?

Fran Parks: Yes, we went through the process, more or less, and voted to stay with the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group.

Public comment is over.

Mr. Daly can't be here this evening so we're not going to get an answer on that tonight.

Fran Parks: You can ask us after. Public comment is over, Amy. Thank you.

Fran Parks: Public comment is over. You can ask us at the end of the meeting. Do you want to do the minutes from the previous meeting?

MINUTES

Laurie Hadley: Sure. I make a motion that we approve the minutes of the April 24th, 2014 meeting. I understand this is necessary because the recording didn't come out well that night.

Fran Parks: The recording worked but it just cut out at the end of the meeting. It only had three-quarters of the meeting.

Laurie Hadley: I've read these and they seem accurate to me, so I think a motion would be acceptable.

Fran Parks: Second. All in favor?

Laurie Hadley: Aye.

Fran Parks: Aye.

Amy Kates: Can I ask what date that is?

Laurie Hadley: 24. April.

Fran Parks: Get one? OK. Call a brief recess until Mr. Barry comes.

I'll turn the chair over to Mr. Barry.

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Mr. Barry: No, that's quite alright. You keep going.

REVIEW ANNUAL MEETING WARRANTS

Fran Parks: We're at the final review of the annual meeting warrants.

Mr. Barry: OK. I just came straight from court. I'm sorry. I didn't even have time to go home and grab everything.

Fran Parks: We have one here.

Mr. Barry: Thank you. Where are you? The beginning?

Fran Parks: Yes we haven't ... We waited for you.

Mr. Barry: I'd just like to say sorry for being late. I'm in the middle of a trial right now and I just got out of court.

Laurie Hadley: I think we've made all of the recommendations. What we have to do is just go and make the motions, as far as I know.

Mr. Barry: Do we want to just divide these up into threes?

Fran Parks: Do the fact missions start with Article 5?

Speaker 5: Yes.

Fran Parks: You're 5 through 7. The Board of Commissioners are 8, 9 and 10.

So, Laurie, do you want to do the bylaw ones?

Laurie Hadley: I can. I will start off with ...

Fran Parks: 20.

Laurie Hadley: And there are 3 of them?

Fran Parks: No, 5.

Laurie Hadley: And we'll do them all? I won't do any in the beginning.

Mr. Barry: Do you want to do that?

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Laurie Hadley: Yes.

Fran Parks: Do you want to do 1 through 4?

Laurie Hadley: That's fine.

Fran Parks: I'll do 11, 12, streetlights. Do you want to do the library?

Mr. Barry: Sure. There are streetlights on 14.

Fran Parks: I'll do that.

Mr. Barry: OK.

Fran Parks: I'll do 16.

Mr. Barry: Do you want to do 13? That's your painting.

Fran Parks: Yes. 12, 13 and 14. Employee benefits. Do you want to do the last two?

Mr. Barry: Sure. That would be what, 16 and 17?

Fran Parks: Right. That's 18, 19. I can do 17, if you want.

Mr. Barry: What about 16? Will you do that?

Fran Parks: Yes, I'll do that.

Laurie Hadley: We don't have three and a half minutes.

Fran Parks: Under 19, it says the Prudential Committee will make a recommendation at the annual meeting.

Mr. Barry: Do we want to discuss that?

Laurie Hadley: I want to see the land protected. I'm not sure that we should begin at this time with the way it's been.

Fran Parks: I'll say what I said at the water commissioners meeting. The town council was asked to protect Bell Farm and they turned it down. If some dedicated volunteers hadn't raised the \$250,000 back in '92, there would have been 15 houses there. The land is a zone of contribution for water.

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We'd have an easement for that. It supposedly only 4 acres, but I'm not exactly sure where the underground markers are that say, "This is where the zone of contribution stops." I think that if you put houses in there, they are also going to contribute to the nitrification of the bay. Quite honestly somebody could put a Chapter 40B in there and you could have Lord only knows how many houses. I think there are a lot of people that live in Cotuit today that drive by Bell Farm and think, "Well, that's just always been there."

Mr. Barry: It has always been there.

Fran Parks: It hasn't always been there.

Mr. Barry: It was under agreement with the two houses way back when.

Fran Parks: The bulldozers were already bulldozing it and bulldozing roads and they bulldozed down the house. I think that it may be a burden on us now but I think for the future generations, I think it's worth it.

Laurie Hadley: I do not agree.

Mr. Barry: My feeling on this. I don't often disagree with you, Laurie. It's a lot of money and it's something we hadn't planned for until it just popped up. I kind of see that as one of the last set of crown jewels in the village. It's just the 3 of us making a recommendation. The voters are going to do whatever they want to do. I personally would like to see it preserved. I would recommend us taking that money and spending the money.

Laurie Hadley: Why don't you make a motion?

Mr. Barry: I make a motion that the Prudential Committee recommend the approval of Article 19.

Fran Parks: Second.

Mr. Barry: You're ruining the show, come on.

Fran Parks: Oh, sorry. Is there a second?

Laurie Hadley: Second.

Fran Parks: Yes. All in favor?

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Laurie Hadley: Aye.

Mr. Barry: Aye.

Fran Parks: Aye. Unanimous.

Anything else to come before the committee this evening? I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Laurie Hadley: Second.

Fran Parks: So moved.