

Prudential Committee  
Minutes  
976 Main Street, Freedom Hall  
Monday, March 16, 2020 5:30PM

Call to order

Recording

Present: Fran Parks, Lisa Mycock Kelly, Ray Pirrone, Charlie Eager

Absent: Silvio Genao

Pledge of Alligence

Public Comment: Cynthia Gardner stated that due to the possibility of not having future public meetings (due to the COVID virus outbreak) would like the committee to think about plans going forward and maybe putting all questions on ballots and vote for the people they want to serve them, Lisa responded it is something they will have to discuss today and Ray stated that the Governor was submitting to legislation today how district meetings should be conducted, will have to wait and see.

Water Department Report: Chris Wiseman reviewed handouts regarding FY21 budget. Chris gave a brief overview explaining increases and decreases with a 4% increase across the board. Fran asked about getting computers, Chris responded that Chief Rhude offered some iPad, otherwise it would be out of the special appropriation fund. Fran also asked about the USDA maintenance reserve-does it need to be cleaned? Chris responded yes and it is scheduled for the first of second Monday in April and this will be paid from the maintenance account.

Fire Department Report: Chief Paul Rhude reviewed the fire station budget. One big addition is proposal for a Deputy Chief position. Other large increase is the injury line item. Lisa asked what Other FT meant- Chief Rhude explained it is a catch all-recently used for open staff positions. Looking at 4.42% increase. Discussed proposed articles-Chief's vehicle and deputy vehicle. Fran asked if any prospects for vacant FF position-Chief Rhude answered have a few candidates in mind. Chief Rhude also needs an article for overdue bills from previous year.

Treasurers Report: Ray reviewed the Finance Department's budget, including salary increases, new payroll costs, audits, bond issues, insurance, 6.8% increase in expense, 7% overall. Public buildings 3% increase for pt. maintenance person, electricity and grounds. Fran asked if the floor maintenance for Freedom Hall was included, Ray will add that in (\$1,000). And the electricity company will give credit in July. Streetlights increasing slightly (about \$1,000) and reallocating some amounts. Library a 3%, Debt-long term debt is fixed, have put in \$284,000 which is variable. Benefits-health insurance going from 360,000 down to 338,000 health care company stated no change this year, may be an increase next year. Retirement 332,000 OPED est from report. Fran asked if the four FF who are not taking district insurance and get the stipend, is it reflected in the 338,000 Ray responded no, will have to come out of

salary line-about \$40,000. Stabilization \$25,000 for the district general fund, new census for next year water

department stabilization at \$45,880. Overall-Reserve fund \$30,000, Finance budget at 388, Fire Department \$2,110,000 /\$90,000, Water Department \$721,697, PruCom Buildings budget looks bigger than it is at \$22,000 going down slightly, and Street Light up a \$1,000, library up 3%, principal and

interest up \$24,000, employee benefits down 9%, \$70,000 transfer into stabilization. Total ask of the District is \$4,979,000 up 4.6%. Discussed off setting taxes options. Ray will make expense adjustments. Ray reviewed handout of current status of the February report and under footnote number 1 would like to propose to close those appropriations out. Ray has a motion following this to close it out and move money to general stabilization. Fran moved that all unspent funds from the following funds be transferred to the District stabilization fund. Fran further moves that the above transfer the Prudential Committee closed the following appropriations that are under \$50,000 and/or were not debt funded. Appropriation 1: 2017-6 rehab engine number 263 with \$12.00 unspent, Appropriation 2: 2018-2 repair fire station parking lot \$5,999 unspent, Appropriation 3: 2019-13 water department pick up all spent, Appropriation 4: 2009-10 Lovells Pond all spent, Appropriation 5: 2010-10 water mains all spent. Second, all in favor. Ray wanted to point out was spent on payment of debt. Ray discussed what to do moving forward regarding emergency procedures for administration-petty cash, remote working, bills, payroll, reconciling, and bonds/alternatives, and auditors-would like to extend for another year. Fran made a motion to extend the contract with the current auditors for one more year for the fiscal 20 audit, second, all in favor. Discussed future meetings, Fran mentioned meeting remotely and provide a way for the public to hear the meeting and put a notice on the agenda site the meeting is on with the link.

Administrative Assistant: will still work with Freedom Hall, minutes, audio and clerical work.

Annual Meeting:

Freedom Hall: In light of everything going on, Fran decided to wait to complete the basement and stage floor until next year.

Minutes: Motion made to approve February 24, 2020 as written, second, all in favor

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair: discussed when to meet again, Charlie responded (inaudible). Date not determined, waiting to see what come from the State.

Motion to adjourn, second, all in favor