

# COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT

## *Annual Reports*



1956

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# COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT

Annual Reports for the Year Ending December 31, 1956

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## Organization

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### Moderator

Alfred C. Knight

### Prudential Committee

Walter C. Scudder, Chairman	Term expires 1959
Robert F. Hayden	Term expires 1957
Joseph H. Beecher	Term expires 1958

### Clerk

F. Maynard Gifford

### Treasurer

Herbert L. Snow

### Board of Water Commissioners

William G. Ball, Chairman	Term expires 1959
Kenneth Turner	Term expires 1958
Thomas Rennie	Term expires 1957

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## BOARD OF ENGINEERS

### Chief

Robert O. Dottridge

First Assistant Engineer	Antone R. Souza
Second Assistant Engineer	Roger Burlingame

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### Auditors

Bertram F. Ryder	Udell Perry	Theron Apollonio
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## Auditor's Report

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To the Voters of the Cotuit Fire District:

We submit herewith a letter from Mr. Herman B. Dine, Director of Accounts, reporting of an audit of the District's books as made by the Massachusetts Department of Corporations and Taxation.

Respectfully submitted,  
BERTRAM F. RYDER  
UDELL PERRY  
THERON APOLLONIO

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Department of Corporations and Taxation  
Bureau of Accounts  
State House, Boston 33

April 30, 1956

To the Board of Water Commissioners  
and the Prudential Committee  
Cotuit Fire District  
Cotuit, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

I submit herewith my report of an audit of the books and accounts of the Cotuit Fire District for the period from February 22, 1955 to March 13, 1956, made in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44, General Laws. This is in the form of a report made to be by Mr. William Schwartz, Assistant Director of Accounts.

Very truly yours,  
HERMAN B. DINE,  
Director of Accounts

HBD:JRB.

Mr. Herman B. Dine  
Director of Accounts  
Department of Corporations and Taxation  
State House, Boston

Sir:

In accordance with your instructions, I have made an audit of the books and accounts of the Cotuit Fire District for the period from February 22, 1955, the date of the previous examination, to March 13, 1956, the following report being submitted thereon:

The financial transactions of the departments receiving or disbursing district funds or sending out bills for collection were examined and checked.

The appropriations voted by the district meetings were listed. The aggregate expenditures chargeable against each appropriation were compared with the amounts voted; general ledger accounts were compiled; and a balance sheet, which is appended to this report, was prepared showing the financial condition of the district on March 13, 1956.

The surety bond of the district treasurer filed for the faithful performance of his duties was examined and found to be in proper form.

The books and accounts of the district treasurer were examined and checked. The recorded receipts were analyzed and compared with the departmental records of payments to the treasurer, and the payments were checked with the approved orders on file.

The cash balance on March 13, 1956 was proved by reconciliation of the bank balance with a statement received from the bank of deposit.

The recorded payments on accounts of maturing debt and interest were checked with the amounts falling due and with the cancelled securities on file.

The commitments of taxes and water rates and services were audited and proved. The payments to the treasurer were compared with the treasurer's receipts, the abatements were checked with the records of the departments authorized to grant such credits, and the outstanding accounts were listed and proved.

The outstanding accounts were verified by mailing notices to a number of persons whose names appeared on the books as owing money to the district, the replies received thereto indicating that the accounts, as listed, are correct.

In addition to the balance sheet, there are appended to this report tables showing a reconciliation of the treasurer's cash and summaries of the tax and water accounts.

During the progress of the audit cooperation was received from the officials of the district, for which, on behalf of my assistants and for myself, I wish to express appreciation.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM SCHWARTZ

Assistant Director of Accounts

WS:JRB.

# Annual Report of Clerk

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## ANNUAL MEETING — COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT

February 13, 1956

In accordance with the foregoing notice and the by-laws of the District, the annual meeting of the Cotuit Fire District was held in Freedom Hall on Monday, February 13 at 8 o'clock P.M., and the clerk called the meeting to order.

Article 1. Mr. Alfred C. Knight was unanimously chosen Moderator for one year.

Article 2. The following were nominated and the result of the election was as follows:

\*Mr. Walter C. Scudder, member of Prudential Committee, 3 years., 1 vote.

\*Mr. William G. Ball, member of Water Commissioners, 3 years, 1 vote.

\*Mr. F. Maynard Gifford, Jr., Clerk, 1 vote.

\*Mr. Herbert L. Snow, Treasurer, 1 vote.

\*Mr. Robert O. Dottridge, Chief Engineer, 1 vote.

\*Mr. Antone R. Souza, 1st Asst. Engineer, 1 vote.

\*Mr. Roger Burlingame, 2nd Asst. Engineer, 49 votes.

Mr. Gary Pierce, 18 votes.

Mr. Edward Bearse, Jr., 10 votes.

Blank 1. Total—78.

\*Mr. Bertram Ryder, \*Mr. Udell Perry, \*Mr. Theron Apollonio, 1 vote each for auditors.

\*Elected.

Article 3. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District Treasurer,



with the approval of the Prudential Committee, be authorized to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1957 and to issue a note or notes therefor payable within one year and renew such note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Section 17, General Laws."

Article 4. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, be authorized to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1956 and to issue a note or notes therefor payable within one year and renew such note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with Section 17, General Laws."

Article 5. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was Voted: "That the District accept the reports of the officers of the District as printed with the following corrections:

Page 26. Item of Chief Car to Chief's Salary.

Page 22. Figure of \$1356.37 to \$1355.83 and figure of \$6668.94 to \$6669.48.

Article 6. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was Voted: "That the District instruct the Prudential Committee to request the Department of Corporations and Taxation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to audit the accounts of the District for the fiscal years of 1955 and 1956.

Article 7. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$3.50 to pay unpaid bills of the District."

Article 8. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$1300.00 for expenses of the financial department and

salaries for the ensuing year and that the moderator be paid the sum of \$20.00 for his services."

Article 9. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$4550. for the expenses of the fire department for the ensuing year."

Article 10. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$250.00 for the maintenance of the Cotuit Public Library."

Article 11. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$329.09 to pay the annual assessment to the Barnstable County Retirement System."

Article 12. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$1800.00 for the expenses of Freedom Hall for the ensuing year."

Article 13. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$2900.00 for the purpose of lighting the streets of the District for the ensuing year."

Article 14. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$6000.00 for the payment of water bonds and notes maturing the current year."

Article 15. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District appropriate from the receipts and revenues of the water department:

- (a) \$ 1,500. for interest on water bonds and notes,
- (b) \$ 2,500. for the water dept. for new services,

- (c) \$15,928. for the operating and maintenance of the water department,
- (d) \$ 1,000. for the water dept. for extensions.

Three resolutions were offered at this time with one objection voiced. "RESOLVED that the people of the Cotuit Fire District assembled in their annual meeting believe it to be in the public interest to encourage the use of the public water supply and to discourage the use of private supplies and the construction of private systems."

This resolution was voted upon favorably.

"RESOLVED that the people of the Cotuit Fire District assembled in their annual meeting respectfully request that the Board of Water Commissioners have their consulting engineers make a study of the probable requirements of our water system particularly with reference to total water consumption, pumping capacity and storage facilities projected over a 10-year period, with specific recommendations as to requirements in 1960 and 1965; and further recommend a supporting rate structure. The commissioners are also requested to have this report completed and printed and presented to the Fire District at a meeting to be held in the summer, prior to August 15th, so that all the summer people may be invited."

This resolution was voted upon favorably.

"RESOLVED that the people of Cotuit Fire District assembled in their annual meeting respectfully request the Board of Water Commissioners to defer their proposed change of water rates until the contemplated study by our consulting engineers is completed and their recommendation received."

This resolution was voted upon and received a negative vote.

(A motion to indefinitely postpone article 16 was defeated.)

Article 16. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District borrow and appropriate to and for the water department the sum of \$75,000. for the purpose of purchase and erection of an elevated water tank, for the installation of pipe to connect same to the water system, for the purchase or taking of land by eminent domain for its location, and that the Water Commissioners be directed and authorized to purchase or take by eminent domain such land for and in behalf of the District and that the Treasurer, with the authorization of the Prudential Committee and approval of the Water Commissioners, issue bonds or notes of the District therefor payable in not more than fifteen years in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 44 of the General Laws."

Article 17. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$171.96 for the improvement of street lighting in the village center."

Article 18. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$875.00 for the purchase of fire hose."

Article 19. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously Voted: "That the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$250.00 for the purpose of painting at the fire station."

Article 20. A motion made and seconded, "That the District apply the sum of \$5,080.63 as certified as free cash towards the tax levy of 1956" resulted in a negative vote.

Article 21. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was Voted: "That the sentiment of the voters of this meeting is to notify the Planning Board to defer any zoning in the Cotuit Fire District except in the Cotuit Highground section."

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to adjourn.

R. MAYNARD GIFFORD, Jr.  
Clerk, Cotuit Fire District.

This Meeting:

Voted to raise by taxation	\$18,429.55
Voted to borrow and appropriate	75,000.00
Voted to appropriate from receipts and revenues of the water dept. for water dept. use	\$20,928.00

## Report of Treasurer

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Year ending December 31, 1956

### Receipts

Cash balance, January 1, 1956	\$16,274.05	
Tax Collector	24,555.27	
Water Department	21,180.12	
Freedom Hall	315.00	
Fire Taxes Returned	15.56	
Tax Titles Redeemed	2.16	
Rebate on Radio	527.47	
Premium and Interest on Loan	195.75	
Loans	84,000.00	
Total Receipts		\$147,065.38

### Expenditures

Water Department	\$29,326.96	
Fire Department	4,521.38	
Freedom Hall	1,581.93	
Financial Department	1,461.32	
Street Lights	2,986.49	
Notes and Bonds	6,000.00	
Barnstable County Retirement System	329.09	
Cotuit Public Library	250.00	
New Hose	875.00	
Painting Fire Station	250.00	
Unpaid Bills	3.50	
Total Expenditures		47,585.67
Cash Balance December 31, 1956		\$99,479.71

### Financial Condition of the District

Cash Balance in Hyannis Trust Co.	\$ 99,479.71
Bonds and Notes	128,000.00
Due from Tax Collector 1956 Levy	1,932.80

### Valuation of the District

Real Estate	\$3,687,500.00
Personal	380,270.00
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Total Valuation of the District	\$4,067,770.00
Tax Rate 1956—\$6.30 per \$1,000.00.	

### Financial Department Expense in Detail

Appropriation		\$1,300.00
Printing and Advertising	\$184.28	
Postage	15.44	
Taxes Refunded	122.52	
District Seal	30.00	
Certification of Notes	160.00	
Notes and Coupons	56.25	
Assessors' Salaries	87.24	
Tax Collector's Salary	38.76	
Moderator's Salary	20.00	
Clerk's Salary	150.00	
Auditor's	216.83	
Treasurer's Bond	30.00	
Treasurer's Salary	350.00	
<hr/>		
Total	\$1,461.32	
Overdraft		\$161.32

Respectfully submitted,

HERBERT L. SNOW,  
Treasurer.

## BALANCE SHEET

### Assets

Cash	\$99,479.71	
Accounts Receivable		
Taxes	1,932.80	
Water	464.73	
	<hr/>	\$101,877.24

### Reserves

Elev. Tank Appropriation	\$ 70,970.00	
Bonds and Notes Appropriation	6,000.00	
Unclaimed Checks	9.00	
Accounts Receivable Reserve	2,397.53	
Water Dept. balance	7,618.70	
Reserve Fund—Overlay surplus	3,420.28	
Overlay 1955 balance	479.52	
Free Cash	10,982.21	
	<hr/>	\$101,877.24

### Debt Accounts

Net funded or		Water Loans	\$128,000.00
fixed debt	\$128,000.00		
Additional Water		Loan authorized	
Supply	11,000.00	and unissued	11,000.00



## Report of Board of Water Commissioners

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To the Citizens of the Cotuit Fire District:

Your Board of Water Commissioners submits herewith its twentieth Annual Report of the year ending December 31, 1956.

At the Annual Fire District Meeting held February 13, 1956, Commissioner William G. Ball was re-elected for a term of three years.

There was a decrease of 30% in the amount of water pumped in 1956 over 1955 because of greater and better distributed rainfall during the summer months, when lawn and garden sprinklers are extensively used. While our gallonage pumped in 1956 decreased over 1955, our receipts from sales of water increased 21% due to the fact our books are kept on a cash basis and most of the excess gallonage in 1955 was not billed and paid for until after January 1, 1956.

The contract for the erection of our 200,000 gallon elevated tank, on a site near the new Elementary School, was awarded to the Pittsburg-Des Moines Company. This company was the lowest bidder in the amount of \$54,900. Frederick V. Lawrence, Inc. was the lowest bidder on the tank foundation. His bid was \$6,497.00. Water mains will be laid to connect the tank with the new main on Old Oyster Road and also with the new Main Street Pumping Sub-Station. The new tank and connections will afford additional water storage and much greater protection for most of the District, should a bad break occur in any part of the water system.

Fifteen new services were added this year. We now have 448 services of which 15 are inactive. Three of the new services were renewals.

### Record of Water Pumped

Total pumped with main station	25,710,000 gals.
Total pumped with sub-station	15,222,000 gals.
Total	40,932,000 gals.
Largest week June 29 to July 5	2,720,900 gals.
Largest day June 15	699,100 gals.

### Receipts

Water	\$16,518.98	
Meter Rental	563.50	
Service Connections	2,944.34	
Extension Contract	1,101.39	
Toll calls, other	51.91	
	<hr/>	\$21,180.12

### Accounts Receivable

Water and meter rental	\$464.73
Regular Appropriations:	

### Expenditures

	Expended	Appropriated	Balance
Interest	\$2,101.88	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 601.88*
Service Connections	2,529.53	2,500.00	29.53*
Extensions	333.08	1,000.00	666.92
Maintenance	12,307.99	15,928.00	3,620.01
Special Appropriations:			
Additional Water			
Supply	\$25,773.19	\$36,000.00	\$10,226.81
Old Oyster			
Road Extension	5,000.00	5,000.00	None
Grove Street			
Extension	2,500.00	2,500.00	None
School House Service	1,405.26	1,500.00	94.74
Elevated Tank	4,030.00	75,000.00	70,970.00

\*Overdraft.

### Maintenance In Detail

Superintendent, Salary	\$3,480.00
Assist. Superintendent, Salary	3,220.00
Office Supplies	223.05

Telephones	304.12	
New England Water Works	42.00	
Unclassified	7.94	
Truck expenses	244.42	
Engine fuel	980.58	
Freight and express	47.82	
Electricity	187.70	
Heating fuel	171.24	
Building repairs	4.50	
Tools and Hardware	584.11	
Insurance	295.32	
Bonds	10.00	
Rustop System	180.00	
Chemicals	328.61	
New Equipment	354.83	
Grounds and water shed	165.39	
Repair Pumps and Motors	1,455.93	
Legal fees	20.43	
		<hr/>
		\$12,307.99

#### Inventory

Stock on hand Dec. 31, 1956	\$6,782.51
Stock on hand Dec. 31, 1955	5,634.40

Increase in inventory value	\$1,148.11
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#### Financial Condition of Water Department

Excess receipts over expenditures	
to December 31, 1955	\$6,668.94
Excess receipts over expenditures	
(Reg. Appro.) December 31, 1955	949.76
	<hr/>
Water Department Balance	\$7,618.70

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM G. BALL, Chrm.  
KENNETH TURNER  
THOMAS D. RENNIE

## Annual Report of the Prudential Committee

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To the Citizens of the Cotuit Fire District:

Your Prudential Committee submits herewith its annual report for the year 1956.

At the annual Fire District meeting Walter C. Scudder was elected a member of the Prudential Committee for a three year term.

The Tax Rate for 1956 was \$6.30 per thousand. The present total valuation of the District is \$4,067,777.00. The steady increase in the real estate valuation of the District has helped to keep the tax rate down.

Freedom Hall was used more than in any previous year. The Town of Barnstable Recreation Committee continues its weekly program of dancing and basketball during the fall and winter months. The village young people use the Hall for basketball practice and games when supervised. The Hall is used regularly for weekly meetings of the Boy and Girl Scouts.

The Street Light budget for 1957 calls for an increase to cover costs of additional year round lights.

### Street Lights

Appropriated	\$3,071.96	
Expenditures	2,986.49	
	<hr/>	
Balance to revenue		\$85.47

### Freedom Hall

Water Department, water	\$ 25.50
Cape & Vineyard, electricity	113.20
James Irwin, services	237.50
Cotuit Oil Co., fuel	575.77
Warren Campbell, services	180.00
Myer's Inc., chairs	142.80
Ralph Perry, extinguishers	122.89
Ralph Patterson, insurance	72.60
Cotuit Grocery Co., supplies	35.59
Robert F. Hayden, supplies	21.28
Suburban Gas Co., supplies	15.00
R. A. Macomber, services	1.00
John Newton, Jr., services	3.00
Antone J. Frazier, services	35.80

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Total Expenditures	\$1,581.93
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### Freedom Hall

Appropriated	\$1,800.00
Expenditures	1,581.93

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Balance to revenue	\$218.07
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## Annual Report of the Board of Engineers

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To the Citizens of the Cotuit Fire District:

The Board of Engineers submits herewith its annual report of the year ending December 31, 1956.

Our equipment remains in good operating condition despite its age.

The Department has responded to 40 calls during the year:

Fires:	
Building	2
Chimney	2
Electrical	2
Grease	1
Grass and Brush	3
Out of District	1
	<hr/>
	11
Ambulance:	
Cape Cod Hospital	19
Pocasset Hospital	2
Mass. General Hospital	2
New England Baptist Hospital	2
Tobey Hospital	2
Needless	2
	<hr/>
	29

The loss by fire was estimated to be \$23,964.00. Complete figures of payment on insurance are not available at at this time.

### Apparatus and Equipment

Engine 1	1937—500 gallon Maxim pump
Engine 2	1940—500 gallon Maxim pump

Expenditures for 1956 and estimates for 1957 are as follows:

During the year a radio was installed in the ambulance. This radio was made possible by donations from citizens, the Rescue Squad and the Firemen's Association.

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Keep matches away from children and caution them about their use. Use only 15 ampere fuses unless in a special circuit. Have your heating and cooking appliances kept clean and properly adjusted by a person trained to do this work.

Remember that a few dollars spent on proper maintenance of appliances may save thousands of dollars and possibly your life.

In closing we wish to thank those who have in any way helped the Department during the year and the public for their cooperation.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT O. DOTTRIDGE  
Chief Engineer

ANTONE R. SOUZA  
1st Asst. Engineer

ROGER BURLINGAME  
2nd Asst. Engineer



## **Cotuit Fire District Warrant**

### **Annual Meeting, February 11, 1957**

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To the Clerk of the Cotuit Fire District:     GREETING:

You are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Barnstable residing within the territory comprising the Cotuit Fire District qualified to vote in District elections and affairs, to meet in Freedom Hall, Cotuit, Monday, February 11, 1957, at 8:00 o'clock P.M., then and there to act upon the following articles:

Article 1. To choose a Moderator for one year.

Article 2. To elect one member of the Prudential Committee for three years, one member of the Board of Water Commissioners for three years, a Clerk, Treasurer, Chief Engineer, First Assistant Engineer, Second Assistant Engineer, three Auditors, all for one year and to elect any other legal officials not mentioned.

Article 3. To see if the District will authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money on or after January 1, 1958, in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1958.

Article 4. To see if the District will authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money on or after January 1, 1957 in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning January 1, 1957.

Article 5. To hear and act upon the reports of the officers and committees of the District.

Article 6. To see if the District will instruct the Prudential Committee to request the Department of Corporations and Taxation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to audit the accounts of the District for fiscal years of 1956 and 1957.

Article 7. To receive and act upon the accounts of all persons to whom the District may be indebted.

Article 8. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$1,400.00 for salaries and expenses of the financial department for the ensuing year.

Article 9. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$4,550.00 for the expenses of the fire department for the ensuing year.

Article 10. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250.00 for the maintenance of the Cotuit Public Library.

Article 11. To see if the District will raise and appropriate a sum of money to pay the annual assessment to the Barnstable County Retirement System.

Article 12. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$2,300.00 for the expenses of Freedom Hall for the ensuing year.

Article 13. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate a sum not to exceed \$3,300.00 for the purpose of lighting the streets of the District for the ensuing year.

Article 14. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,800.00 for the payment of water bonds and notes maturing the current year.

Article 15. To see if the District will appropriate from the receipts and revenues of the Water Department:

- (a) \$2,000.00 for the interest on water bonds and notes
- (b) 2,500.00 for the water dept. for new services
- (c) 18,345.00 for the operating and maintenance of the water department
- (d) 1,000.00 for the water dept. for extensions.

Article 16. To see if the District will vote to apply a sum of free cash towards the tax levy of 1957 or take any action in relation thereto and act fully thereon.

Article 17. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money to pay for overdrafts in District accounts.

Article 18. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$350.00 for a heater at the fire station.

Article 19. To see what action the District will take on the following: "That when extensions are applied for by a real estate developer, and approved by the water commissioners, the total cost of such extension shall be borne by the developer."

Article 20. To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

And you are hereby directed to serve this warrant by advertising same in a newspaper printed within the Town of Barnstable seven days at least before the time of said meeting.

Hereof fail not to make due return of this warrant and your doings thereon to said meeting.

Given under our hands this 14th day of January, 1957.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE:

Walter C. Scudder  
Robert F. Hayden  
Joseph H. Beecher

A True Copy Attest:  
F. Maynard Gifford, Jr., Clerk.