

**COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
FREEDOM HALL
COTUIT, MA 02635
SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

Present: Mark Lynch, Seth Burdick, Fran Parks and Ray Pirrone

The meeting was called to order at 6pm by Mark Lynch on September 30, 2024, at Freedom Hall and available by ZOOM.

Mark Lynch did a roll call of the members present.

No public comment at this time.

Ray Pirrone went over the closing information.. He stated that it would be in the latter part of October when it would be done. He stated that he received a call from the new Town Assessor, John Curran, who suggested it be done by October or November. Town needs all the districts to complete the tax meetings so they can submit that to the State for their own free cash certification.

Ray asked for approval to get a phone for the Assistant Treasurer. He pointed out that district phones are being used by Water Department and Fire Department. Fran Parks made a Motion that the Treasurer be authorized to get a phone for the Assistant Treasurer costing no more than \$600.00 (for the phone) and no more than \$90.00 per month. All in favor. Approved.

FY25

- Revenue is 22% vs. the target 17% after 2 months. There is a surplus in revenue of \$244,000.00
 - \$147,000.00 is from current year tax
 - \$32,000.00 is from a grant
 - \$56,000.00 in refunds
- Salaries are all on target
- Expenditures are under target

AMENDED W-2s

- Ray spoke with the Chair at the Water Department regarding claims/refunds
- Any and all expenditures needed will be figured out.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

- First draft of the request or proposal from the outside consultant, Ms. Martinez
 - Comments regarding draft
 - Fran spoke about the language regarding the irrigation and sprinkler systems being deleted
 - She also spoke about the play area and stated that the Town of Barnstable should pay/insure it

- Certain aspects of the draft need to be deleted
- Fran stated that Ms. Martinez's CV cannot be put on the website and Mark stated that Ms. Martinez gave her permission
- Seth stated that a firm rough draft would be most helpful and to keep moving it forward
- Ray questioned the engineering cost
- Panel discussed the proposal and Habib report

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Patty Daley commented regarding the cost of the study and the public not being able to see the document that the committee is referring to
 - Fran responded that the document is a draft and that it would be posted online
 - Patty responded that it should be posted before the meeting
- Lisa Haven spoke about Special District Meeting regarding Article on studying feasibility
 - Ad Hoc Committee that introduced "RFP"
 - As a citizen, she would like Ms. Martinez to pare it down to affordability to move on
- L. Lloyd
 - Noted that the most recent publicly available Prudential Committee meeting minutes was July 29, 2024. She asked for the cause of delay and what actions are being taken to resolve.
 - Mark responded that they have hired someone to create minutes from the recordings.
 - Ms. Lloyd asked if there was a secretary or clerk appointed for the Cotuit Fire District and asked if this person receives a compensation and does that person's responsibilities include providing minutes in a timely way
 - Mark responded "yes"
 - Ms. Lloyd asked board to help her understand what actions the Prudential Committee is taking with regard to the discrepancy
 - Fran responded that they were "working on it"
 - Seth responded that the compensation was "\$100 a meeting"
 - Ms. Lloyd asked about the revision of the 2023 Annual Report that was presented at the May annual meeting and a number of errors on it. She asked for an update. Lisa Haven answered that it is finished and the Board will vote to approve at the next meeting and the annual report is introduced by the meeting minutes.
 - Ray Pirrone stated that all the corrections in the annual report has been fixed and there are no substantial errors in the report.
 - Ms. Lloyd asked when the corrected annual report will be available to the public and asked with the draft report be put online with "draft" stamped on it
 - Mark and Ray answered it could be put online with "Pending Approval"
 - Ms. Lloyd asked about the objections to posting Ms. Martinez's resume
 - Fran asked Ms. Daley to clarify her comments about the integrity of the Prudential Committee
 - Ms. Daley responded that it seemed to her that District had voted prior to look at different uses of the building before demolishing it

- The board responded with various comments about the boards integrity and public comment issues

Motion to Adjourn – all in favor