

COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT
Prudential Committee
Regular Meeting, April 25, 2011

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Amy Kates. Members Barry and Hadley were both present.

The Chair then opened the meeting to public comment. A question was raised concerning the petition article in the annual district meeting warrant and asking if there was not already a petition before the Legislature. Ms Kates responded that two petitions had been submitted, but she'd received no information on their status. We were further questioned as to why we'd submitted a second petition and Ms Kates responded that we had been requested to do so to show our support for the taxpayers petition.

Ms Lowe asked who had actually written the Prudential Committee's petition. Ms Kates responded that she had copied the one submitted by this taxpayers, had it certified by the Committee clerk as to its authenticity, and forwarded to our representative. Ms Lowe further questioned if it had been reviewed by the full committee and the response was No.

Mrs Dolores Lowe questioned whether or not any action had been taken regarding the problems with Freedom Hall. Ms Kates said she'd met with two contractors and had obtained quotes from both firms. Ms Lowe asked if a civil engineer and been involved and recommended consulting with one. Ms Kates stated at present they were concentrating on mold and water issues and had reviewed the study done approximately nine years ago by a local architect.

A question was asked as to whether or not the Committee would be releasing the warrant immediately after the meeting. The process of preparation by the Clerk and advertising were explained.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 21st meeting with a change of one date. The vote to approve was unanimous

Regarding the web site, Ms Hadley explained her reasons for wanting to change companies. A proposal from the Browne Company will be available the day following the meeting. Mr Barry made a motion that an article be included in the annual meeting warrant, with no amount specified. The amount will be in the final motion at the annual meeting.

Chairman Kates wished to discuss a bill received from Attorney Gargiulo. After an explanation from the Treasurer as to how the work had come about and much discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the bill be paid. The motion passed on a vote of 2 to 1.

A bill from the Town of Barnstable for the preparation and mailing of the property tax bills for the District was also presented. It included \$775 for postage, \$1,400 for printing,

and \$5,000 for writing the software program. This is approximately \$7,200 lower than the original estimate. The bill has been paid.

Ms Hadley reported the Fire and Water Commissioners had not proposed any changes to the By-laws. There will be articles concerning posting of meeting notices and minutes as well as one giving the Committee the authority to appoint ad hoc committees when it is felt they would be appropriate.

The members then discussed the warrant for the annual meeting, the results of which can be seen in the copy of the warrant attached to these minutes.

It was decided not to include an article to frame in an office in the basement of Freedom Hall. The Moderator cautioned that a complaint had been filed with the ethics commission after last year's meeting regarding Article 2 whereby the Committee requests the voters to set salaries for elected officials.

At the conclusion of the discussion on warrant articles, Ms Grasseti questioned whether or not the Fire Department purchased bottled water. The answer was that the Union purchased bottled water.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. It passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

LAURIE C. HADLEY
Clerk, Prudential Committee