

**COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT  
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING (VIRTUAL BY ZOOM)  
JANUARY 24, 2022**

**Present: Charles Eager, Clerk, Ray Pirrone, Treasurer, Seth Burdick, Prudential Committee, Mark Lynch, Prudential Committee and Fran Parks, Prudential Committee**

The meeting was called to order at 6 PM on January 24, 2022 remotely using the Zoom app.

Fran Parks led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the Prudential Committee minutes of December 20, 2021 as written.

There was no public comment.

The Treasurer went over his reports on year-to-date revenues and expenses. Treasurer reported that we are at or ahead budget for all revenues except for water receipts and at and below budget on expense items except for Freedom Hall salaries. There were some variances in certain expense categories due to one-time payments made at the beginning of the year. These distortions will clear as the year goes along. He reported on the status of Special Articles.

Tom Hoppensteadt, Chairman of the Board of Water Commissioner and Water Superintendent Chris Wiseman reported on the Water Department FY 2022 budget to date. Both believe the Water Department should go in at or under budget as long as there aren't any drastic emergencies even those Water Mains are over budget and Station/Tank may go over. They believe they make it up in Operations surplus. They report the Water Security System Article is complete and surplus will be turned back at the Annual District Meeting.

Tom Hoppensteadt presents the preliminary budget for FY 2023 which is a work in progress. There were no questions at this time.

Finally, Tom brought up the Water Department's five-year plan. Included in the plan was Treatment Plant, Source Water Protection, Truck Replacement, Infrastructure Update, GIS Software and Billing System Software.

Rick Pisano, Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners reports on the Fire Department's FY 2022 budget to date. Overall, the Fire Department is in good shape. In salary expenses On the Job Injury is a problem and overage is expected. The other expenses look good. The Department is significantly below budget for expenses at the 6-month point. Revenues are ahead of last year.

Rick now discusses the 5-year capital plan. For FY 2022 money were appropriated to purchase a vehicle for the Deputy Fire Chief and estimated to be delivered in February. For FY 2023 purchase of an Ambulance, a shared spare Ambulance with another municipality is planned. FY 2024 a Brush Breaker is proposed but discussion will be had if it needed at this time. FY 2025 the purchase of a new Pumper. There is no projection on a new Station or renovation in the current plan.

Streetlight maintenance company is terminating the maintenance business but have agreed to an extension until June 30, 2022 before ceasing business. Cape Light Compact is negotiating on behalf of all the entities on the Cape and Vineyard for a new provider. The Compact need to know if the district wants nighttime audit of lights. It will come at a cost which is unknown at this time. The question to the district is whether the district wants to stay in the no category or change to a maybe or yes. The district elects to go into the maybe category to see whether or not the cost is prohibited or not.

**Fran Parks makes a motion that the Prudential Committee accept the employment contract between the Cotuit Fire District and Interim Fire Chief Small, the motion was seconded. The motion past 2 to 0 with one member abstaining.**

Fran Parks received a bid from Spenser Hallett to fix the Ladies Room toilet and sink in Freedom Hall and replace the brass pipes in the rest of the building. Their bid is \$8,061.36. This is under the \$10,000 threshold requiring three bids. The Committee would like one more bid to make the first one is in the ball park. Fran said she would get another bid.

The governing study was the next piece of business. It was discussed that a subcommittee be set up to determine what the targeted question or goals of the district are before hiring a consultant to do the study. We near to know what the consultant will be asked to provide. Seth will comeback next month with additional information.

The monthly School Committee with the Town was cancelled by the Town because they had nothing new to report. It has been rescheduled for February 16.

New Fire Chief salary negotiations are beginning. Fran Parks will represent the Prudential Committee on that Committee.

There was no public comment.

Next meeting is February 28, 2022.

**Motion made by Mark Lynch to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Seth Burdick and passes unanimously.**