

**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT**

**MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Carlton B. Crocker, David Lawler, Prudential Committee; John Lacoste Prudential Committee; Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer; Byron Eldridge, Fire Chief; Patrick Hill, Deputy Fire Chief; Craig Crocker Water Superintendent

**NOT PRESENT:** Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer

The meeting convened at 5:58 PM.

**Public Comment:** None.

**David Lawler nominated Carlton Crocker to be the Prudential Committee Chairman, John Lacoste seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

**John Lacoste nominated David Lawler to be the Prudential Committee Vice Chairman, Chairman Crocker seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

**John Lacoste made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2024 meeting as written. David Lawler abstained, citing his absence from the previous meeting. Chairman Crocker seconded the motion, the motion passed.**

**Craig Crocker:** Craig briefly discussed the current pumpage, noting that we have pumped approximately six million gallons more than last year at this time.

He thanked Rich Sargent for his assistance with an IT grant for the SCADA system. The grant will be used along with the budgeted funds to update the cyber security of the machine. The timeline for this update is two to three months.

Craig is going to present a draft agreement to the Board of Water Commissioners at their next meeting from Attorney Doug Murphy related to the Park City Wind Project. They are expecting to start in January 2025. Chairman Crocker asked Craig to follow up with Attorneys Pierce and Murphy after he meets with his Board.

The water department has hired two new people in the last several months and they are fully staffed now. Both Mike Ramsay and Mike DiBuono are doing well.

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Craig gave an update on the contract labor change. The staff is providing new customers with an extensive list of approved contractors to reach out to for pricing to install from the house to the main. An RFP was put out for some of the emergency work.

David Lawler asked for an update on the sewer project. The town is directing customers to contact the water department to coordinate the water and sewer bills. The sewer department will bill based on the water usage we provide for them.

**Byron Eldridge:** Chief Eldridge handed out the minutes of the August 19, 2024 Fire Commissioners Meeting for review. They will meet again next Monday to conduct the Deputy Chief interviews. The new Deputy Chief will start November 1st for orientation before Chief Eldridge retires next year. The list is comprised of candidates that were selected from the Chief Officer Assessment that was done in April.

The 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony was held this morning. There have been many compliments from the public over the years.

The Chief had a meeting with an engineer in response to an inquiry from the town. They determined that the location of the proposed sewer line coming into the station was in the center of the driveway coming off of Route 28. They were able to determine a better location near the sign out front. They estimate that they would be starting in the fall of 2025.

The department received two letters which were related to the water department structures on Shootflying Hill Rd and Service Rd. The Chief confirmed with Glenn Snell that there are no facilities at those locations that would require tying into the sewer line.

Chief Eldridge gave an update on the apparatus. We are still waiting for two ambulances and the three new trucks have an estimated timeline of 48 to 50 months.

**Patrick Hill:** Deputy Chief Hill is in the process of getting pricing for the replacement of the four underground fuel storage tanks. The age of the current structures is a concern that has been previously discussed. They will be replaced with a new above-ground fuel management and fuel dispensing system.

The Annual Recognition Ceremony is coming up on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 5 o'clock. An invitation will be going out in the next week or so.

**Molly Stevens:** Molly attended the annual school for the Massachusetts Treasurer Collectors Association in August which culminated with a certification exam. She is now a Certified Massachusetts Municipal Treasurer. She will continue to attend classes annually to maintain her certification.

Molly and Carlton completed Cristin's six-month review and will be implementing the budgeted raise. She continues to attend monthly trainings with Cape Cod Municipal Health Group to increase her knowledge of the products available to the district.

There are several projects on the horizon including an upgrade to our cash collections process which will improve reporting and reconciliation processes. Molly has scheduled training for the prudential office and fire admin staff to maximize the capabilities of our software.

Molly had a discussion with the Chief and Deputy regarding the new budget season. She will put together a calendar and schedule regular meetings to ensure all budgets are on track for the annual meeting in the spring. With this being the first budget season for the new administration, she would like to make sure nothing is left to the last minute.

**Next Meeting: October 9, 2024 at 6:00pm.**

**Public Comment:** None

**Carlton Crocker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 PM.**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cristin Van Buren" is written over a horizontal line.

**Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer**