

**COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT  
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING (VIRTUAL BY ZOOM)  
MAY 17, 2021**

**Present: Seth Burdick, Ray Pirrone, Charlie Eager, Paul Haenle, Fran Parks**

Fran Parks led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Treasurer went over his report. Tax collections are still lagging behind. The Treasurer tried to look to see what is causing the problem as requested by Paul Haenle. He said it was hard to do because the records are with the Town. His guess is part of it could be Covid but can't be sure. He said we usually lag by 2% so 4% is a little high. Water revenue have made up for the tax shortage. Fire Department is on budget. District revenues are at 93% of the annual budget over 83% of the year. District expenses are at 83% for the year. The Treasurer will request for a transfer from the Reserve Account to cover a shortage in Prudential's Financial Department salaries. District expenses overall are down. Transfers are over 1% which appear to be from the Water Department transfer of money received from meter assessment. There may be a missed adjustment on the amount collected compared to the assessment amount. Treasurer will look into the issue. In article 18 of the Warrant, we are asking the voters to close out a number previous articles with no outstanding liability, pay off a couple of outstanding deficiencies and add funds to the Space Needs article.

Permission given to use the school for the Annual District Meeting. The best estimate of number people attending is approximately 100. Discussion on where to put all the attendees.

Discussion was held on the Policy Advisory Committee recommendation on Public Comment at meetings. The Prudential Committee amended the policy to say; It is the policy of the Cotuit Fire District that all committees and subcommittees are expected to place public comment on their posted agendas. **A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accepted the amended policy stated above.**

Fran Parks talked about the tours of the school that have been set up. The first one was last Saturday with 14 people attending. The other tours are set up for next Wednesday and the following Monday. Chief Rhude said he would make his phone number available for people who make the tours dates. He said the school could be opened at any time.

**Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept with corrections as noted the April 12, 2021 minutes.**

**Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the April 26, 2021 minutes.**

The meeting was opened to Public Comment. Carol Zais commented that the Water Department's Assistant Superintendent was not replaced with a lower-level staff member. The Water Department created a new position for a lower-level staff member. The Treasurer replied the Water Department

budget doesn't include the Assistant Water Superintendent position. MS. Zais also asked if the additional compensation to the Assistant wasn't already done earlier in the year? The Treasurer replied he was explaining why the Prudential Committee salary line item was overbudget for the year. The additional compensation has already been paid. Finally, she asked what was the \$11,552 spent on from the space needs study this year? When did you vote on this or were you not required to vote on it? The Treasurer explained the money was left over from a previous space needs study.

**Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting.**