

**COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT  
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
DECEMBER 20, 2021**

**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 December 20, 2021 at Freedom Hall, Cotuit, MA and could be seen virtually on 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 November 22, 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 revenue and at and below budget on expense items. 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 reports on the status of Special Articles.

The Treasurer provided and went over 5-year Prudential Committee Capital Plan including non-operating special articles (some of the items don't qualify as a capital asset due to cost). He corrected himself on his comments at the last meeting about the Water Department's reluctance to change their accounting software to Vardar System. He said that they have been a willing participant. There was a meeting scheduled with Brewster which uses the software that had to be cancelled they were going to attend.

Fran Parks has asked Spenser Hallett to provide a price for fixing Ladies Room toilet and sink in Freedom Hall. She all asked for a price to replace the brass pipes in the building. The use of Freedom Hall has been busy.

Seth Burdick believes the District needs a governance study done. It was brought up by the Policy Review Committee. The last one that was done was 22 years ago. The questions being where to we go from here. Consolidate with the Town and other Districts as whole, just Fire, just Water or it would secede from the Town. There are number of large ticket projects being discussed such as new Fire Station, School acquisition and Water Filtration Plant. The study may go back with the same options as before or something new may be proposed. Mark Lynch believes this would get the residents thinking about the upcoming projects and decide if this how they proceed. First step is preparing a warrant article and have it voted on if the Committee decides to go ahead.

Fran Parks attended the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting and reported they have hired an interim Fire Chief starting December 31, 2021 until a permanent Fire Chief is appointed. The interim Chief is the former Falmouth Fire Chief Mike Small.

Fran Parks asked for any public comment and there was none.

Mark Lynch reported on the School Committee Negotiations Committee meeting December 15, 2021. There was one issue discussed about an old oil tank that was installed in 1957 and removed in 1988. There is form that is filled out after removal that has a box to check if the tank leaked and it was not checked. The Town's negotiators are trying to get the transfer in front of the Town Council in the first quarter of 2022.

Mark Lynch had some questions on the street light maintenance contract that is terminating. First what they do? Frances Parks explains they service all the lights in the District. When does the contract terminate? Frances Parks says the termination date is June 30, 2022. Finally, what are we doing to replace the company and what does it entail? Fran Parks explain Cape Light Compact is negotiating for us and all the Towns for a replacement.

Mark Lynch has scheduled a By-law Committee Meeting for January 5, 2022

**Seth Burdick made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mark Lynch and passed unanimously.**