

# MINUTES

## Royalton Fire District #1 Prudential Committee

March 27, 2019 | *Meeting called to order by* Keith Grimes

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### In Attendance

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Keith Grimes – Prudential Committee Chair  
Don Lovejoy- Prudential Committee Clerk  
Rhonda Murphy- Prudential Committee  
Jerry Barcelow- SRRS Advisory Board

Kyle Jones- Prudential Committee Vice Chair  
Victoria Paquin- Administrative Assistant  
Wayne Manning- Water Superintendent

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### Approval of Minutes

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The Minutes from March 13, 2019 were read and approved.

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### Rescue Department

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- Jerry reports that the squad is discussing purchasing a power lift system in conjunction with the new ambulance. They are in the process of pricing out a system and sourcing funds for the purchase, including from savings and possible available grants.
- The advisory board will be updating their bylaws to allow the bookkeeper to move funds from the checking account to the money market account without the express permission of the advisory board. Additionally, the advisory board will change the bylaws to reflect that they will meet only on the fourth Wednesday of each month.
- Steve has made recommendations for employee raises, which have been reviewed by the advisory board and will be going into effect.
- The advisory board continues to investigate a future new building for the rescue squad.

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### Water Department

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- Wayne presented written comments from the state regarding the draft PER for upgrades to the water plant. Dufresne will be writing a response to the state comments which will be sent to the Prudential Committee for review before being submitted.
- Wayne presented correspondence from Ray Solomon regarding his assessment of our coagulation and filtration practices. Wayne has conferred with Dufresne and has implemented the suggestions that were made by Mr. Solomon.
- Wayne has been looking into how other water systems handle delinquent accounts. Wayne reports that Hartford does not interrupt service for nonpayment, instead they choose to send a property to tax sale if the bill goes unpaid. This is done to prevent possible instances of depressurization in the system, and to protect the officials of the water department from possible hostile situations. Wayne suggested that the district may want to adopt a similar policy when it comes to unpaid accounts. Wayne offered to speak with more water systems about their procedures and we will address the topic again at the next meeting.

- One of the requests made by the State of Vermont was that the Fire District designates Lake John as an emergency source only. Due to this request, Dufresne suggested that it may be worthwhile to consider decommissioning the dam as opposed to repairing it. Based on this information, Victoria inquired as to whether the board would be considering a change in plans for Lake John Dam as the district currently has a short-term loan of the funds necessary to repair the dam. Victoria advised that if the plans for dam repair are to change, this loan should be repaid in full as soon as possible.
- Keith raised the question of replacing the meters in the district. This topic has been discussed before, and no plan of action was reached. The point was raised that replacing the meters would not only make it easier for Wayne to read the meters but would also ensure that customers were all being fairly billed for water usage. New meters would also make it easier for the district to assess whether a water leak may be present within the distribution system. The decision was made to place this item on the agenda for a future meeting.

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### Fire Department

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There was no update from the fire department this evening.

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### District Business

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- According to Vermont Statute, the treasurer may not be on the board. Kyle has therefore resigned his position as treasurer. The board will begin the process of seeking a treasurer that resides within the district boundaries.
- Keith raised the question of whether it would be worthwhile to have Victoria become a notary public. It was determined that this would not be necessary at this time.

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### Next Meeting

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April 10, 2019 @ 7 pm

Motion to adjourn was made at 8:30 pm and passed unanimously.