

Wareham Fire District

Prudential Committee Meeting 02/19/26

Prudential Committee Members:

Dean Decas, Brian Crocker, Rick England, Joyce Bacchiocchi, George Barrett

Non-Prudential Committee Members:

Clerk Treasurer Wendy Lemieux, Assistant Chief Mark Rogers, Assistant Chief Pat Haskell

- 6:04 pm Exit Executive Session, Resume open session**
- 6:04 pm Correspondence -None**
- 6:05 pm Approval of bills and purchase orders**
- Motion to approve payment to Dependable Petroleum, \$1,055 – Annual Inspection - Motion BC second RE (5-0-0)
 - Motion to approve payment to Commonwealth of MA, \$350.00- Annual Inspection –Motion BC second RE (5-0-0)
 - Motion to approve payment to Clifford & Kenny LLP, \$4,312.50 – services November 2025 - Motion BC second RE (5-0-0)
- 6:09 pm Approval of Minutes**
- Vote to approve minutes of the meeting on 02/05/2026 – Motion RE, Second BC (4-0-1, GB abstains)
- 6:10 pm Appointment and Contract Approval**
- Appointment of Sophia Kelly as Assistant Clerk Treasurer, effective 03/09/2026.
 - Motion to approve appoint Sophia Kelly as Assistant Clerk Treasurer, BC, Second by RE, 5-0-0.
 - Motion to approve employment contract for Sophia Kelly, Assistant Clerk Treasurer, BC, second by RE, 5-0-0.

6:12 pm Chief's Report (Assistant Chief Mark Rogers)

- See attached report.

6:15 pm Clerk Treasurer Report

- See attached.

6:17 pm Budget FY 2027 – Discussion

- Further discussion of FY 27 budget.
- The proposed articles were discussed further.

Article proposed by Fire Station Study Committee, \$100,000 to fund feasibility study. Motion to vote favorable action, RE, second BC, 5-0-0.

Prior Bill Payment Appropriation (Water Surplus):

Motion to rescind previous vote in the amount of \$275.04, RE – second BC, 5-0-0.

Motion to vote favorable action on revised article in the amount of \$824.65, JB, second BC, 5-0-0.

Article – Protective Gear - \$130,000 –

Motion to vote favorable action, BC, second RE, 5-0-0.

Article – train and retain call firefighters, \$25,000 – motion to vote favorable action by BC, second RE, 5-0-0.

Article to purchase protective gear dryer has been rescinded by Board of Engineers, Fire Department has applied for grant to fund this purchase.

Article – Fire Station maintenance and repairs, to include installation of gear dryer, \$105,000. Motion to vote favorable action BC, second RE, 5-0-0.

Article – Training aids for Station 2, \$9,000. Motion to vote favorable action BC, second RE, 5-0-0.

Article – Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, \$100,000. Motion to vote favorable action, BC, second RE, 5-0-0.

Article – Fire Alarm Decommission – this article has been rescinded by the Board of Engineers, the funds will come from FY 26 and FY 27 budget.

Article – FY 26 Call Firefighters Payroll Budget, \$40,000 – FY 26 – Motion to vote favorable action, JB, second BC, 5-0-0.

- The following items were presented for a vote for favorable action:
 1. **Water Department budget**, as presented. Motion to vote favorable action, GB, second RE, 5-0-0.
 2. **Mechanic Budget**, as presented. Motion to vote favorable action, RE, second JB. 5-0-0.
 3. **Fire Department budget**, as presented. Motion to vote favorable action, RE, second BC, 5-0-0.

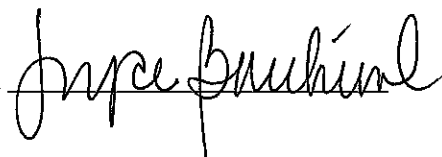
7:13 pm **Public Comment – None**

7:13 pm **Business not anticipated 48 hours prior to meeting - None**

7:13 pm **Adjourn – Motion BC, second RE, (5-0-0)**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joyce Bacchiocchi.

Chair  Vote Date 3/4/24

Clerk  Approve 4

Disapprove 0

Abstain 0

130 Calls for Service from February 5, 2026

At the BOE meeting on February 19th, 2026, the Board reviewed, discussed, and a vote was taken on the submitted budget as requested by the Prudential Committee. It was determined that several line items needed to be addressed. The board acted on the concerns presented at the meeting and adjustments made on the line-item budget and the articles presented. On February 19th the Board of Engineers will meet and finalize the budget.

The B.O.E. is requesting a special meeting to fund the Call Fires & Drills line 5116 to fund the remainder of the 2026 FY to the sum of \$ 40,000.00

Received apparatus progress photo updates from Pierce Manufacturing on February 14, 2026, Committee has received travel documents and is travelling to Appleton WI on the 25th, 26th and 27th of February.

Station 1 overhead door spring failure and have been replaced, also plumbing leaks addressed and repaired.

The Bourne Hill Radio box interior painting completed by Town Maintenance crew.

Office Manager Karin Baker has submitted her retirement letter. Her last day in the office is April 3, 2026. We wish her well in her retirement.

DFS Grant submitted by Captain McIntosh Gear Dryer for Station 2, Seek Thermal Imagers for E-1 crew members and HD Sawalls. All listed have a high priority and we feel the award will be granted.

Our 7 recruits continue to attend Call/Volunteer FF I/II classes at the Massachusetts Fire Academy in Bridgewater.

Officers meeting held on Feb 11 2026 General Orders review and operational issues discussed.

Still awaiting approval of Plymouth County run card for updates.

Conflict of Interest and Harassment Policy acknowledgements have been distributed to department personnel. Currently both are 99 % complete.

**WAREHAM FIRE DISTRICT
TREASURERS REPORT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING: FEBRUARY 19, 2026**

NEW BUSINESS:

Karin Baker has changed her retirement date to April 3, 2026.

ACA Forms are available in my office for any employees that may need a copy. Forms will be submitted to the IRS electronically prior to the March 31st deadline.

Open meeting law meeting minutes refresher published by the Law office of Murphy Hesse Toomey & Lehané was distributed to district employees that take minutes at various committee meetings. It is important that the district comply with MGL relative to meeting minutes. The general public reading the minutes should be able to understand what occurred and how the public body arrived at their decisions.

Boston Mutual open enrollment was held February 17 thru the 19th. All retirees have been notified that effective May 1st their basic life policies will increase from \$5000 to \$10,000

OLD BUSINESS:

All but one District employees have signed the Harassment Policy acknowledgements.

Ethics Training and or acknowledgements have been completed by all but a few employees

Terry's last day in the office is tomorrow, please stop by and wish her well! We will be serving gluten free cake at 3:00.

ONGOING ITEMS:

Employee Handbook: Remains under review by Clifford & Kenny.