

Wareham Fire District

Prudential Committee Meeting Minutes 07/22/2026

Meeting held at 2550 Cranberry Highway, Wareham MA

Prudential Committee Members:

Dean Decas, Joyce Bacchiocchi, George Barrett, Jonathan Rogers, Brian Crocker

Also present: Clerk Treasurer Wendy Lemieux, Assistant Chief Pat Haskell, Interim Assistant Chief Chris Smith

5:30 PM Meeting called to order by Chairperson Dean Decas -

Correspondence – 5:30 PM

- None

Approval of Bills and Purchase Orders – 5:30 PM

- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve purchase order to Power Products, repair of turbo charger and associated parts, \$4,824.24. Second by Jonathan Rogers. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0
- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve purchase order to First Due, Annual Agreement, \$21,994.88. Second by Jonathan Rogers. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0
- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve a purchase order to Central Square, maintain Fire Dept records in IMC annual fee, \$9,951.83. Second by Jonathan Rogers. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0
- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve a purchase order to Stiles Company, cartridges and couplings, \$5,483.00. Second by Joyce Bacchiocchi. Dean

- Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0
- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve a purchase order to AECOM, consulting services in FY27 re: wellhead protection program, \$43,600.00. Second by Jonathan Rogers. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0
 - Motion by Brian Crocker to approve a payment to Griggs and Browne, annual contract, Station 1 and 3, \$1,350.00. Second by Jonathan Rogers. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0
 - Review monthly bill from Clifford and Kenny LLP, \$2,062.50, June 2026. Payment was approved at our last meeting.

Minutes – Vote – 5:42 PM

- No vote on minutes.

Chief's Report: Assistant Chief Pat Haskell 5:42 PM

- See Attached

Clerk Treasurer Report – Wendy Lemieux – 5:47 PM

- See Attached
- Wendy discussed the need to hold a Special District Meeting to pay a bill from DUA (Dept of Unemployment Assistance) from a previous year.
- The meeting would tentatively be held in early September.
- Motion made by Brian Crocker to hold a Special District meeting to pay previous bills to DUA and to rescind various previous articles. Second by George Barrett. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0
- Articles will be discussed and voted on at a future Prudential Committee meeting.

Discussion and possible vote – Vehicle Policy 5:56 PM

- Jonathan Rogers met with Roy Maher and received positive feedback.
- Jonathan also met with the two Assistant Chiefs to get feedback. *Chief Haskell o/p*
- Assistant Chief Haskell points out that the policy is extensive, and there could be challenges in implementing the policy.
- The policy has not been reviewed by legal counsel yet.

- A policy is needed, and contractual agreements would supersede any policy.
- Jonathan Rogers will share the concerns shared by AC Haskell with Chair Decas.
- This matter is tabled to our next meeting.

Discussion – Clerical Assistant and Office Manager – currently vacant - 6:05 PM

- There was discussion regarding the next steps in developing this job description.
- The description will be shared with the Board of Engineers, and there will be a meeting with the Clerk Treasurer and Asst Clerk Treasurer.
- Our goal is to have a final draft to share with the Pru Comm at our next meeting.
- There may be an additional position also.
- Chair Decas will make contact with Local 1249 to have a discussion as this relates to the contract.

Discussion – recording of Prudential Committee meetings – 6:15 PM

- Joyce shared that the price shared at our last meeting would include all of the equipment needed, including microphones. This was a question brought up at our last meeting.
- Jonathan stated again that he will investigate options using Microsoft Teams which would cost less.

Second Assistant Engineer – job description and job posting 6:22 PM

- The changes to the job description and posting made by the attorney have not been integrated into the document. We will plan to have that ready for the next meeting and hold a vote at that time.

Prudential Committee Reports –

Review of Administrative / Business Process 6:30 PM

- Jonathan Rogers is working on further mapping of these processes.

Public Comment – 6:31 PM

Statement by Chair: District members are welcome to share comments on topics that are not listed on the meeting agenda during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Each speaker will be allotted up to two (2) minutes to address the Committee.

Please note that, in accordance with standard procedure, the Prudential Committee will listen to comments during this time but will not respond or engage in discussion. This is not intended to be dismissive; rather, it ensures that all voices have an opportunity to be heard while maintaining compliance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law prohibits Committee members from discussing matters that are not included on the posted agenda. By following this procedure, we help ensure that meetings remain open, fair, transparent, and legally compliant.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us maintain a respectful and productive meeting environment.

- Retired FF Ralph Braley: Asked if all three Chiefs should be out of town at the same time. Also, in recent trainings there has been mention of “respond with due regard”. Also, he stated that there is a hint of retaliation in the comments about the vehicle policy. He also stated that he can’t imagine that we need two people in the office at this time. There is a need for support in Fire Prevention. We should fill the first position now, and maybe we don’t need the second person. Money is always a concern.
- Assistant Chief Chris Smith: Please don’t make mistakes we made in the past when determining salary range for Assistant Chief. Consider the office duties that are required. Require more for the AC and reward them for it.
-

Any business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of meeting – 6:38 PM

- None

Adjourn to Executive Session, not to return to regular session – 6:38 PM

Executive Session: Non-Union Negotiations. Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2), to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

- Assistant Chief Pat Haskell
- Motion to adjourn by Brian Crocker, second Dean Decas. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0.

yes
DJD

July 22, 2026

Open Session

Next scheduled meeting is August 6, 2026.

Respectfully Submitted by Joyce Bacchiocchi, Clerk.

Chair Ken Lucas Vote Date 8/6/26

Clerk Joyce Paul Approve 5

Disapprove 0

Abstain 0

Chiefs Report 23 July 2026

Asst. Chief P. Haskell submitting report due to Chief J. Kelley not in attendance.

There have been 120 calls for service since last meeting.

Asst. Chief Haskell had kickoff meeting with Motorola for upcoming project and Engineers will be coming in the next week or so to finalize and view sites.

We have privately paid for fireworks display happening 25 July 2026 Asst Chief Haskell, Capt. Crabb along with a Breaker and Boat will be on site for event along with Onset Fire and Wareham DNR.

Inspection of new Engine 1 completed by FF Bennett a few very small items were being addressed, and the Engine is at dealer in Massachusetts preparing for lettering.

Asst Chief Haskell along with Capt. Callinan and Shift 3 participated in a escort of Mia to the Police Station along with EMS and PD last week and helped her enjoy being home from the hospital along with her receiving some gifts.

The Training Division is conducting a Driver Training program for members of the call force to get more operators in the department. This is headed up by Cpts. McIntosh and Callinan will spread over a month.

Call FF Devin Silva has been offered and accepted the temporary position as Career Firefighter to fill vacancies within the department starting 7-27-26 Shift 1.

FF Matt Bennett has been offered the position of Acting Captain in Fire Prevention to fill the vacancy there.

FF John Braley has started Recruit Training at the Massachusetts Fire Academy.

Respectfully

Patrick Haskell

Assistant Fire Chief

**WAREHAM FIRE DISTRICT
TREASURERS REPORT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING: July 22, 2026**

FISCAL YEAR END:

The final FY26 Vendor Warrant has been processed; encumbrances will be processed next, and the process of closing the books will continue.

The June bill from Clifford and Kenny arrived last week and was processed July 16th with the Chairmans approval. The bill was in the amount of \$2,062.50 and is included in your packets for your reference.

DIVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT ISSUE:

At our last meeting I advised the Board that we had received a reimbursable Bill from the Division of Unemployment in the amount of \$70,533.57. \$31,896.47 in charges date back to 2009 – 2020 and were erroneous charges that were resolved in 2020. The additional \$38,637.10 are charges we are being assessed from June 2024 to April 2025 for an employee who left the District employment. This is the first bill we have received for these charges, and I actively disputed this with the DUA. I have had multiple calls with the DUA who will not budge on the 2024 and 2025 charges that have advised the District to pay the \$32,343.30 in principal charges and once those funds are

received, they will consider reversing the interest charges. The District does not have \$32K in funds available to pay this bill, it is further complicated by the fact that it is a prior year bill even though we were never billed for it. I have spoken with my consultant and Tom Guilfoylet, the Bureau of Accounts Supervisor at the Division of Local Services and have been advised that the only option for the District is to get appropriation from the District voters for payment.