

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, October 8, 2025

PRESENT: Carlton B. Crocker, David Lawler, John Lacoste Prudential Committee; Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer; Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer; Patrick Hill, Fire Chief; Craig Crocker Water Superintendent

Not Present: Michael Rogers, Deputy Fire Chief

Public Attendance: None

The meeting convened at 5:59 PM.

Public Comment: None.

John Lacoste made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2025 meeting as written. David Lawler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Craig Crocker: Craig passed out a copy of the most recent pumpage report with usage being up over last year despite level two drought conditions.

There was a discussion about the electric supply contract. Both Craig and Molly have spoken with Joel Finley about the timeframe to secure the best pricing, as our current contract ends in December. It was agreed that a three-year contract is the maximum allowed without a vote at the annual meeting. It was further agreed that it is imperative to focus on critical issues affecting the contract as opposed to stylistic differences.

John Lacoste asked for an update on the sewer project on Route 28. Craig stated that they will begin tonight with some test pits to identify where the various mains will need to go to lay the septic pipe. They will close a portion of the roadway each night and pave every morning before the rush-hour commute.

Patrick Hill: Chief Hill shared a copy of the minutes of the Fire Commissioners' meeting on August 11, 2025. He reviewed the standardized apparatus numbering and radio communication format which began across Barnstable County on September 1st. The new ambulances received recently were lettered in accordance with the change.

The newly hired firefighters, dispatcher, and custodian have completed their initial training and have been assigned to their groups. Bill Botelho is scheduled to attend the Recruit Program at the State Fire Academy in December.

Chief Hill gave kudos to the Fire Prevention team. They have been busy with commercial and residential inspections as well as community outreach. With this being Fire Prevention Week, they are even busier visiting schools, daycares, libraries, and churches.

Attorney Murphy has put a lot of work into the RFP for the above-ground storage tank project. There is still some fine-tuning required before it's ready to be put out. Chairman Crocker feels that it is important that an appropriate amount of time and attention be dedicated to the details of the RFP.

Lastly, Chief Hill invited everyone to attend the Recognition Ceremony scheduled for October 17th at 10 o'clock in the morning.

Molly Stevens: Molly distributed the first quarter expenditure reports for each department. Most lines are on target, except for those that are paid up front at the start of the fiscal year such as the business insurances. There was a brief discussion about an RFP for business insurance for the coming year. The current policies are good through June 30th.

The Free Cash Certification came in from DOR last Friday. As expected, it is a little less than last year. There was a brief discussion about potential uses. Molly plans to start the budget process for FY 2027 next month so there will be more to come on that.

Molly is working on a draft procurement policy to ensure that the whole district is following the same procedures. She would like to be able to track all the procurement centrally and have clear records. There was a discussion on how the Board would like to structure the RFP process in the future with regular status updates and deadlines. It was suggested that we invite Attorney Murphy to attend some of these meetings when there are large projects and contracts to be reviewed.

Molly has reached out to Assessor John Curran and is waiting to hear back from him to schedule the tax classification hearing. She is hoping he will be ready for the next meeting.

Next Meeting: November 12, 2025 6:00 PM

Public Comment: None

John Lacoste made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 PM.


Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer