CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, October 7, 2026

PRESENT: David Lawler, John Lacoste, Cameron Crocker; Prudential Committee; Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer; Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer; Patrick Hill, Fire Chief; Michael Rogers, Deputy Fire Chief; Craig Crocker, Water Superintendent

The meeting convened at 6:00 PM.

Public Comment: None

John Lacoste made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2026 meeting. Cameron Crocker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Patrick Hill: Chief Hill discussed his budget being on track and that overtime is slightly down from a year ago. All five new hires have completed the two-week in-house orientation and have been assigned to groups. Kam Sassone is scheduled to attend the Mass Fire Academy in March 2027. Fire Prevention officers have completed inspections of schools and daycares. The department is hosting two fire prevention courses over the next few months. By hosting these state classes, we are able to secure spots for multiple members to attend. The new LifePak 35s were installed, and all staff have been trained on the apparatus. Calls for the month of September were 451, which is up 153 from last year. We were able to conduct hands on roof operations training as well as annual respiratory protection requirements, and driver training. September also included the completion of several station projects, including second floor conference room upgrades, new gear lockers for the new hires, and began to discuss living quarters renovations. Our annual recognition ceremony is scheduled for Friday October 23rd at 10:00 a.m.

Lastly, Chief Hill provided an update on the underground storage tank project. The designer selection closed on 9/11/2026 with no bids received. Since the conclusion of that, we have received information that there were metal fragments found in our gasoline. This led to a request for an emergency waiver from DCAMM which was approved to complete the minimum work necessary to address the emergency described in the request. Chief Hill will solicit proposals from several companies with the plan to complete the full project as the only remedy for the emergency we have. We plan to have a joint meeting of the Fire Commissioners and Prudential Committee to vote on a vendor and next steps.

There was discussion about the need for immediate action due to the possibility of interrupting services if any apparatus were to be negatively impacted. The board is in agreement that this is a situation requiring emergency procedures to ensure that we get the project done as soon as possible.

Deputy Rogers spoke about the HVAC project at Station 2, which is set to begin on October 19 and last approximately five weeks.

Craig Crocker: Craig shared the most recent pumpage report. September was down from the previous year. Craig also discussed his budget being on target for the first quarter. There is a slight increase in overtime due to the road projects requiring personnel on site occasionally.

Craig is interviewing for a vacancy, he received 8 applications and is interviewing 4 candidates.

Molly Stevens: Molly provided expenditure reports through September. The Town of Barnstable's Assessor has left and they have an interim. The valuations will likely not be ready for our November 4th meeting; it is likely we will have to schedule a separate tax classification hearing later in November. Molly will also touch base with the assessing office regarding water liens and how to process. Molly will be attending the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group meeting on 10/8/2026, where the vote on Senior Plan rates will take place. It is anticipated there will be an 8% increase in the rates.

There was a discussion of simplifying the budget presentation for the annual report and Annual District Meeting. The board would like to keep the current format for transparency purposes. We will need to establish a salary contingency line in the budget for unknown increases and unsettled contracts.

Molly and Cristin are planning to attend a Massachusetts Municipal Accountants and Auditors Association conference on November 5, and the office will be closed, with Flo possibly coming in the afternoon.

Molly discussed the cell tower RFP and whether we are going to rebid or take the offer. Molly did not find anything that comparable enough in land or tower size to mandate more than the offer on the table. Craig is going to check with some other towns and districts to see if there is anything to compare to. We still have a little time to consider the decision.

Next Meeting: November 4, 2026 6:00 PM and a joint meeting for procurement of AST TBD (tentatively 10/14/26 at 08:00).

Public Comment: None

John Lacoste made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM.

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Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer