

Prudential Committee Budget Meeting
March 16, 2026

The Prudential Committee held an FY27 Budget Meeting in the Fire District Office, on the above date, with the following officers present: Chairman Thomas A. Satko, Vice-Chairman Richard G. Kleiner, Member Michael J. Lahey, Clerk & Acting Treasurer Allen J. Mendel, and Chief Engineer John M. Pansecchi.

Also present: Superintendent John C. Barrett, Bookkeeper/Office Manager Victoria A. Lassonde, First Assistant Engineer David J Lennon, Firefighter David A. Lennon, Assistant Clerk & Treasurer Lynne E. Alexander, and iBerkshires reporter Sabrina Damms.

Chairman Satko called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Fire District Office.

Unfinished Business

FY27 BUDGET

Enterprise Fund – Water Department

Superintendent's Salary

Enterprise Fund: \$113,760.08

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Assistant Superintendent's Salary

Enterprise Fund: \$88,196.08

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Superintendent's Expense

Enterprise Fund: \$1,700.00

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Water Department Wages – Page 1 & 2

Enterprise Fund: \$194,909.08 (Held)

Bookkeeper Victoria A. Lassonde: A new Laborer/Operator was appointed; the change in step for the new hire will affect this expense. Bookkeeper Lassonde will update the information for the next meeting.

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Water Department Wages – Overtime

Enterprise Fund: \$42,987.16 (Held)

Bookkeeper Lassonde: Held for the same reason listed in the Water Department Wages.

Water System Expense

Enterprise Fund: \$173,550.00

Superintendent Barrett: an adjustment needed to be made for unanticipated issues and troubleshooting with the new SCADA company; parts and supplies are increasing year over year; there is no warrant article for meters this year, so money is needed in the operating budget to replace failed meters with the new electronic meters; there is an addition of the new asset management software (Waterworth). This program will assist the District to make fiscal decisions with budgeting scenarios; chemical expense has been moved to Pumping Station Expense.

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Pumping Station Expense

Enterprise Fund: \$153,100.00

Chairman Satko: the increase is due to the alarm monitoring cost and the chemical costs being moved from Water System Expense.

Superintendent Barrett: there is an increase in the alarm monitoring because this has been in the negative; chemicals were increased because more phosphate is being used due to the increase in the amount of pumping; a decrease in telephones because some lines at the pumping stations have been removed.

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Road Machinery Expense

Enterprise Fund: \$23,200.00

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Water Department Clothing Allowance

Enterprise Fund: \$4,150.00

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Engineering Service

Enterprise Fund: \$10,000.00

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Maturing Debt

Enterprise Fund: \$282,457.58

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Interest and Fees on Maturing Debt

Enterprise Fund: \$55,099.54

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Warrant Articles

Reserve Fund

General Fund: \$40,000.00

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Reserve Fund be appropriated from Surplus Revenue for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Town of Adams Support Fee

General Fund: \$2,000.00

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Town of Adams Support Fee be appropriated from the General Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant – to be fully reimbursed

General Fund: \$15,500.00

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant be appropriated from Surplus Revenue, to be fully reimbursed, for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

FEMA Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Program (Safer Grant) – to be fully reimbursed

General Fund: \$53,534.26 (Held)

Chairman Satko: previously this was fully reimbursed but changed last year to the District responsible for a percentage.

Chief Engineer Pansecchi: the percentage amounts were based on last year's splits. The information for this year is not available at this time. The Chief will reach out to see if he can get more information on the final grant percentages and deadlines. The District only needs the funds if approved for the grant.

Shoring Support System

General Fund: \$44,000.00

Chairman Satko: District currently pays \$2,000/monthly for renting the shoring supports. To purchase the shoring supports it would be a flat fee of \$44,000.

First Asst Engineer Lennon: it would pay for itself in two years.

Chief Engineer Pansecchi: asked if the amount included the yearly inspection.

Firefighter Lennon: asked what the life expectancy is on the supports.

Superintendent Barrett: there is no determined life expectancy but the aluminum supports will not rust, rot, or crack. The District would still have to pay for the yearly inspection.

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Shoring Support System be appropriated from Surplus Revenue for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Space Needs Assessment

General/Enterprise Fund: \$8,000.00

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Superintendent Barrett: the assessment will determine how much space will be needed in the future for the District, as a whole - Fire Department, Water Department, offices, storage, and training facilities. This would include the building and lot.

Member Lahey: asked if this was a one-time fee.

Superintendent Barrett: it is a one-time fee just for the space assessment.

Chief Engineer Pansecchi: this is step one in a four-step process.

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Space Needs Assessment to be appropriated from Surplus Revenue for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Cheshire's Pilot Assessment

Enterprise Fund: \$10,000.00

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Cheshire Pilot Assessment be appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Glen Street/Orchard Terrace Tank Modifications

Enterprise Fund: \$203,500.00

Superintendent Barrett: the engineering phase is almost complete. The District was able to save some money by managing the project in-house.

Member Lahey: asked if we were using the same tank.

Superintendent Barrett: yes, with improvements. A new mixer will be installed and a communication system, due to losing the hard-line system.

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Glen Street/Orchard Terrace Tank Modifications be appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Bassett Reservoir Dam Inspection

Enterprise Fund: \$10,000.00

Superintendent Barrett: he applied for a grant through DCR to cover this cost but needs appropriate funding in case we do not get it.

Bookkeeper Lassonde: if the grant is received, this amount will return to Retained Earnings.

Upon motion made by Member Lahey, seconded by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for the Bassett Reservoir Dam Inspection be appropriated from Surplus Revenue for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Full-time Firefighter

General Fund: \$82,500.00

Bookkeeper Lassonde: the retirement cost is not included this year due to the fact that we have already been assessed for FY27; that cost will need to be applied to future budgets if a full-time firefighter is hired.

First Asst Engineer Lennon: asked if the current amount included overtime.

Chief Engineer Pansecchi: the amount included overtime and it was a full-time 40 hours/week position that is scheduled for 7:00 am to 3:00 pm from Monday-Friday.

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount for a Full-time Firefighter be appropriated from the General Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Held/Revised Items – Held

Prudential Committee Salaries

General Fund: \$1,880.00 (\$2,700.00 original)

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the General Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Prudential Committee Salaries

Enterprise Fund: \$2,820.00 (\$4,050.00 original)

Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the Enterprise Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Firefighter Compensation

General Fund: \$129,050.00 (\$186,250.00 original)

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Upon motion made by Vice-Chairman Kleiner, seconded by Member Lahey, it was unanimously voted to recommend the above amount appropriated from the General Fund Budget for approval by Fire District voters at the Annual Fire District Meeting to be held on May 27, 2026.

Set Date

The next budget meeting will be held on Monday, March 30th, following the 5:00 pm Monthly Prudential Committee Meeting.

Vice-Chairman Kleiner made a motion to adjourn, Member Lahey seconded, Unanimous - Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 pm


Respectfully submitted,



Kristen G. Rosenau - Administrative Assistant



Thomas A. Satko - Chairman



Richard G. Kleiner - Vice-Chairman



Michael J. Lahey - Member

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE