

FIRE DISTRICT NO.1  
144 NEWTON STREET  
SOUTH HADLEY, MA 01075

DOINGS OF ANNUAL MEETING  
APRIL 27, 2023

MINUTES OF THE FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1 ANNUAL MEETING

Pursuant to the foregoing Warrant the inhabitants of Fire District No. 1, South Hadley, Massachusetts, met at the hour and place designated.

It took 74 voters about 3 hours to discuss and vote on the 38 articles on the warrant during the Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at the Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School, 15 Mulligan Drive, South Hadley, MA.

The Annual Meeting was digitally voice recorded.

It is noted here that all articles were moved and seconded, although such is not recorded individually here within these minutes.

The Moderator welcomed the public and acknowledged the newly elected officials of the District.

The following is the action taken on the articles:

**ARTICLE 1** It was moved that the District vote to accept the Prudential Committee Report found on Pages 5 thru 7 in the annual report dated for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022.

**Motion passed. 45 in favor, 25 opposed.**

**ARTICLE 2** It was moved that the District vote to accept the report of the Board of Water Commissioners as published on pages 16 thru 20 of the Annual District Report for the year ending June 30, 2022.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 3** It was moved that the District vote to accept the report of the District Treasurer as found on pages 9 thru 14 in the Annual Report for the year ending June 30, 2022.

**Motion passed.**

**ARTICLE 4** It was moved that the District vote to fix the salary and compensation of the following elective officers of the Fire District No. 1 for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2023 as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended follows: Moderator, Prudential Committee Members, Board of Water Commissioners, Clerk/Treasurer, as follows:

Moderator	\$271.99 per year
Prudential Committee Chair	\$1,625.96 per year
Prudential Committee Clerk	\$1,883.88 per year

Prudential Committee Member	\$1,625.96 per year
Board of Water Commissioners Chair	\$1,500.00 per year
Board of Water Commissioners Clerk	\$1,500.00 per year
Board of Water Commissioners Member	\$1,500.00 per year
District Clerk/Treasurer	\$72,997.12 per year

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 5** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,760,253 and transfer the sum of \$839,378 from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, and transfer the sum of \$100,000 from Free Cash, and transfer the sum of \$17,908 from Local Receipts for a total of \$2,717,539 to fund the Personnel Services account as detailed in the Prudential Committee FY24 budget document.

**Motion Failed.**

**ARTICLE 6** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$294,000 to fund the Fire Department Other Expense account as detailed in the Prudential Committee FY24 budget document.

**Motion passed.**

**ARTICLE 7** It was moved that the District vote to transfer from the Ambulance Reserve Fund, the sum of \$260,000 to fund the Ambulance Other Expense Account as detailed in the Prudential Committee FY24 budget document.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 8** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$151,433, and transfer the sum of \$2,317.00 from the Ambulance Reserve Fund for a total of \$153,750 to fund the Administration Other Expense Account as found in the Prudential Committee FY24 budget document.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 9** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to fund the Air Compressor Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 10** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to fund the Fire Department Building Improvement Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 11** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to fund the Fire Department Major Equipment Repair Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 12** It was moved that the District vote to transfer from the Ambulance Reserve Fund the sum of \$4,000 to fund the Ambulance Computer Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 13** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 to fund the Fire Gear Replacement Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 14** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to fund the Alarm Radio Console Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 15** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to fund the SCBA Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 16** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to fund the District Web Site/Information Technology Account.

**Motion failed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 17** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000, and transfer the sum of \$80,000 from the Mt. Holyoke College Gift Account for a total of \$120,000 for the Debt Principal Account to fund the annual principal payment for the Fire Department ladder truck.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 18** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,450 for the Debt Interest Account to fund the annual interest payment for the Fire Department ladder truck.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 19** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 to fund the Fire Vehicle Stabilization Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 20** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$90,000 to fund the Ambulance Stabilization Fund Account.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 21** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 to fund the Fire Department Other Post-Employee Benefits (OPEB) Fund.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 22** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$670,341 to be paid by the District Treasurer to the Treasurer Custodian of the Hampshire County Retirement System.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 23** It was moved that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$604,796 to fund the Medical, Dental and Life Insurance benefits account for certain persons in the service of the District for health, dental and life insurance benefits at seventy-five (75%) percent of the premium.

Motion was made and seconded to amend Article 23 to move that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$589,796 to fund 75% of the Medical, Dental and Life Insurance benefits for certain qualified persons in the service of the District including the Fire Department and District Clerk/Treasurer, and zero appropriation for the Prudential Committee and Moderator.

**Motion to Amend passed. 42 in favor, 12 opposed.**

**Motion as Amended passed.**

**ARTICLE 24** It was moved that the District vote to authorize the District Treasurer, with the approval of the majority of the Prudential Committee, to make legal and prudent investments of the District's funds all pursuant of the terms, conditions and restrictions of all relevant sections of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 167.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 25** It was moved that the District vote to authorize the District Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the financial year beginning July 1, 2023, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4 and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 26** It was moved that the District vote to allow the Prudential Committee to sell surplus equipment or material.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 27** It was moved that the District vote to authorize the Prudential Committee to apply for, accept and expend any State or Federal Grant.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 28** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,986,052.00 to defray the operating cost of the Water Department and to meet said appropriation:

From its Water Receipts \$1,986,052.00  
\$625,647.00 for Wages and Salaries (inclusive of 3% raise)  
\$1,201,000.00 for Maintenance and Operations  
\$17,500.00 for the Office of the Clerk/Treasurer  
\$10,000.00 for the Reserve Fund  
\$ 75,000.00 For OPEB Trust Fund  
\$3,000.00 for the Travel expense  
\$3,500.00 for the Audit expense  
\$3,167.00 for Interest on Debt for the Ludlow Facility  
\$5,000.00 for the Compensation account  
\$238.00 for Loan Fees

\$5,000.00 for the meter replacement account  
\$5,000.00 for the Shop Repair and Improvements account  
\$2,000.00 for the Computer meter reading equipt. account  
\$15,000.00 for the Water tank upkeep and repair Acct.  
\$4,000.00 for the Watermain Leak Detection Acct.  
\$5,000.00 for the SCADA System equipt. and Maint.  
\$3,000.00 for the Leaping Wells Watershed Acct.  
\$3,000.00 for the Water Tank Painting Acct.  
Total of \$1,986,052.00 from Water Receipts

**Motion passed.**

**ARTICLE 29** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$240,000.00 for the Health, Dental and Life Insurance Account and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$240,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 30** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$171,000.00 for the Retirement Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$171,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 31** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 for the Water Tank Stabilization Fund and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$100,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 32** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$203,800.00 for the Newton St. Amortization, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$203,800.00 from its Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 33** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$80,000.00 for the Critical Infrastructure Stabilization Fund, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$80,000.00 from its Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 34** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 for the Replacement and Installation of New Water Mains Acct. Facility and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$50,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 35** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$61,820.00 for the Amortization of Debt for the Ludlow facility, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$61,820.00 from the Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 36** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$35,000.00 for the New Office Roof Account and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$35,000.00 from the Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 37** It was moved that the District vote to appropriate the sum of \$13,000.00 for the New Lawnmower Account, and to meet said appropriation, transfer the sum of \$13,000.00 from its Water Available Surplus.

**Motion passed with a unanimous vote.**

**ARTICLE 38** It was moved that the District vote to amend its bylaws as presented by a Citizen's Petition as follows:

“1. To see if the District will vote to amend SECTION 12 section c. of its By-Laws, by changing to the following: have custody of the property of the Fire Dept and keep in good condition at all times.

2. To see if the District will vote to amend SECTION 12 section h. Of its By-Laws, by changing to the following: Chairman. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and shall have general oversight of the District excluding the Water Department. In the event of the Chairman's absence, the Clerk shall preside.


3. To see if the District will vote to amend SECTION 14 section c. of its By-Laws, by changing to the following: Chairman. The Chairman shall preside at all meetings and shall have general oversight of the entire Water Department. In the event of the Chairman's absence the Clerk shall preside.

4. To see if the District will vote to amend SECTION 14 of its By-Laws, by adding section f. which states: The Board of Water Commissioners shall have custody of the property of the Water Department and shall keep the same in good condition at all times.”

**Motion passed. 49 in favor, 5 opposed.**

Moderator stated the Meeting will be adjourned to a future date to decide on one of the major funding articles that was voted down.

**I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Annual Meeting and a true record of the doings at said meeting.**

  
Kari Scytowski, District Clerk

Kevin Taughes - Article 23 Amendment. 4/27/2023

**ARTICLE 23** I move that the District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ~~\$604,796~~ 589,796 to fund 75% of the Medical, Dental and Life Insurance benefits for certain qualified persons in the service of the District including the Fire Department and District Clerk Treasurer, and zero appropriation for the Prudential Committee and Moderator.