

DORSET FIRE DISTRICT No. 1

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 14, 2018



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Planning loan procured from State of VT
2. 2nd asset management grant received
3. Metering station phase 1 complete
4. Well drilled for supplemental water source
5. Expanded services contract with Town of Dorset
6. Water fees based on estimated usage
7. Bond preparations

1. Planning Loan Procured

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

- meetings with state officials
- 5 year, 0% interest loan
- will be repaid from bond money

Planning loan covered

- source exploration and design of construction projects
- permitting, drilling and testing of well

2. Asset Management Grant #2

Local surveyor and water operator are mapping system

- supply lines from springs to reservoir
- supply lines from reservoir to distribution system
- main distribution system

3. Metering Station

Daily readings now required by state of Vermont

- total water consumption
- chlorine levels

Monitoring station resides near start of distribution system

- West Rd. at Church St.

Data logger will allow accurate leak-percentage estimates

Estimated completion date: summer 2018

4. Supplemental Water Source

Test well on Cheney Rd. has been dug

- producing 90 gallons per minute
- water quality and effects on other wells in vicinity currently being tested

When well is attached to system

- we expect State of lift moratorium on additional water usage
- we expect to prevent water shortages

Remaining work

- additional permitting and public hearings
- build pump house
- attaching well to water system

5. Expanded Service Contract

Town of Dorset now handling daily water operations

- in addition to handling district billing and administration

Rob Gaiotti is the Water Company Manager

- oversees the Water Operator and our engineer
- coordinates system repairs and improvements
- loan procurement and administrations

Has worked out well for both parties

- District getting great services from the Town
- Town receives additional revenue stream

6. Water Fees Based on Estimated Usage

Last year's fees are based on water fixtures

This year's fees based on State of VT water rules

- residential rates based on number of bedrooms (from town lister info)
- non-residential rates based on beds, meals served, employees

Water meters are still part of future system improvements

- only accurate way to charge based on consumption
- will provide financial incentive to conserve water

7. Bond Preparations

Muni Bond Bank chosen over Drinking Water Revolving Loan

- 30 year term (vs. 20 year)
- less permitting and faster process

Estimated bond terms

- 30 years
- 3.75% - 4.25% interest rate
- \$38,500 annual payment

Usage of bond money:

- \$600,000 – supplemental water project completion
- \$62,000 – metering station project completion
- \$20,000 – hydraulic modeling study
- \$18,000 – future planning and engineering

REMAINING ISSUES

1. Aging service lines
2. Non-functional fire hydrants
3. Sub-par ISO firefighting rating

FY 2019 FIRE BUDGET

This year's fire budget: \$179,888

- Professional & clerk fees: \$37,000
- Truck sinking fund: \$33,688
- Maintenance: \$30,000
- Personnel: \$21,650
- New Equipment: \$20,000
- Insurance: \$17,000
- Utilities and Fuel: \$12,500
- Miscellaneous: \$4,000

Level funded from last year

FY 2019 WATER BUDGET

This year's water budget: \$132,530

- Personnel & Professional Fees: \$40,400
- Bond Payment: \$38,500
- Contingency: \$20,000
- System Maintenance: \$17,500
- Testing, Supplies, Permit: \$7,050
- Insurance: \$4,800
- Administrative: \$4,280

6% increase from last year

Average water bill less than similar local systems

- Dorset average water bill: \$713
- Arlington: \$932, East Dorset: \$1,091

NEW FIRE TRUCK

Fire Chief has proposed purchase of a new fire truck in 2018

Need for a smaller truck able to navigate narrow roads and steep grades

New truck will replace 2 trucks currently in service

- ETA 511 – 1996 pumper/tanker which carries 1000 gallons of water
- 1972 brush truck with 250 gallons of water

Cost estimate: \$350,000

Almost entirely paid for by:

- truck sinking fund
- proceeds from selling two old trucks

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Abbott de Rham

- 1-year term, expires 5/18

Milton McWayne

- 3-year term, expires 5/18

Ben Weiss

- 1-year term, expires 5/18

Steve Jones

- 1 year remaining on 3-year term

Roger Squire

- 2 years remaining on 3-year term

MORE INFO

Get more info at our website: www.dorsetfiredistrict.org

- meeting agendas and minutes
- approved budgets and water rates
- audit summary document
- delinquent fire and water info

Register on site for water system notifications

- water restrictions
- limited water service