



DORSET FIRE DISTRICT

Dorset Volunteer Fire Dept.
Dorset Water Co.

Mailing: PO Box 341 Dorset, VT 05251
Fire Station: 2877 Route 30 Dorset, VT 05251
Town Office: 112 Mad Tom Rd E. Dorset, VT 05253
Phone: 802-362-4571 x 4
Email: dorsetfire341@gmail.com

DORSET FIRE DISTRICT #1 MEETING **May 14, 2018 ~ Special Annual Meeting**

Present: Ben Weiss (Chairman), Roger Squire (Vice Chairman), Abbott de Rham, Milt McWayne, Steve Jones, Shawn Hazelton (Fire Chief), Jim McGinnis (Water Operator), Rob Gaiotti (Town Manager)

Others Present: Jordan E. Dickinson, Gay Squire, Nancy Faesy, Bob Faesy, Henry Chandler, Bill Wightman, Mona Wightman, Jean Kingston, James Kingston, May Soohoo, Don Haywood, Justine Cook, Virginia Longacre, Joan Menson, Robert Menson, D. Green, Sanfra Weiss, Tanya Gabrielle, Allan Sullivan, Jim O'Neil III, Dan Zimmerman, Sandra Pinsonault

Chris Brooks, Moderator, opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

1. Reading of the minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting held on May 8, 2017 and act upon the same.

James Kingston moved and Allan Sullivan seconded to approve the May 8, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

2. To hear reports of the Officers of the Fire Department and the Prudential Committee.

Ben Weiss presented a slideshow outlining:

Accomplishments

- Planning Loan ~ State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
- Asset Management Grant ~ mapping System
- Metering Station ~ required by State of Vermont for monitoring of water consumption and chlorine levels. Estimated completion date of summer 2018.
- Supplemental Water Source ~ test well located on Cheney Road which is producing 90 GPM. When well is fully connected to the water system, the hope

is that the State will lift the moratorium on additional water usage. Pump house to be built.

- Expanded Service Contract with the Town of Dorset ~ R. Gaiotti is acting as the Water Company Manager and the Town is handling District billing and administration.
- Water Fees Based on Estimated Usage ~ last year's rates were based on water fixtures and the District is now moving to rates based on Vermont's water rules.
- Bond Preparations ~ the Muni Bond Bank was chosen with a 30 year term at 3.75% to 4.25% interest rate. The annual payment is estimated at \$38,500. Bond money to be used as follows:
 - \$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 ~ aging service lines, non-functional fire hydrants and sub-par ISO firefighting rating

This presentation and more information is available on the Fire District's website: www.dorsetfiredistrict.org). B. Weiss explained that regular updates for users are posted on the website and people can register their email address on the website to receive notifications.

3. To act upon the proposed budget for the Fire Department for the Fiscal year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 and to authorize the Prudential Committee of the Fire District to set the tax rate following the publication of the Grand List.

B. Weiss stated that the FY19 fire budget is the same as last year at \$179,888. S. Hazelton, Fire Chief, explained that they are proposing to sell two trucks this year and purchase one new, smaller fire truck. Due to the small, steep roads and driveways in the area, the new truck would be a more compact four-wheel drive firefighting vehicle to enable safer passage on the roadways. It was noted that with the sale of the two older trucks and the sinking fund money, that the cost of the new truck would almost be covered. The estimated cost is \$350,000.

Questions:

- Will the purchase of the truck deplete the fund? Yes, but an annual amount is budgeted each year to replenish the fund.
- What is the life expectancy of the truck? It should last 20-21 years.
- Will any other new truck be purchased in the near future? It would be 6 to 8 years before another truck purchase occurs to keep to the rotation schedule.
- Will undercoating be applied to the new truck? The new truck is mostly stainless steel and undercoating is applied at the factory.

Henry Chandler moved and Jean Kingston seconded to approve the FY19 Fire Department budget as presented at \$179,888. Motion carried unanimously.

4. To act upon the proposed budget for the Water Department for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 and authorize the Prudential Committee to set the rates for water users.

B. Weiss explained that the FY19 water budget is \$132,530 which is an increase of 6% from last year, but includes the bond payment. The average water bill is still lower than other area Towns. A. de Rham noted that significant progress has been made on delinquent fire and water amounts.

Questions:

- An explanation of the Professional Fees budget line item was requested. This line item is primarily engineering, legal and auditing fees. Grant money and planning loan revenue will offset some of the engineering fees in this line item.
- Was more than one bid solicited before hiring the engineer? It was explained that the Prudential Committee selected an independent contractor who was efficient and gave a lot of time for the amount spent. Bids may be solicited for future engineering jobs.
- What options besides a well were looked at (springs, another reservoir, etc.)? Due to the length of the water shortages, the ability to cover water usage with springs or trucking water were not viable and also very expensive to develop.
- What is the fee for the expanded service contract with the Town? The fee is included in the budgets under clerk fees.
- What about service and main line repairs? The hydraulic study, once completed, will indicate what future projects are needed for system improvements and what the priorities are.
- Why has the Water Operator budget line item increased? The current Water Operator will be retiring in approximately one year and it will be difficult to hire a part-time, certified operator so a company may have to be used. The State requires documentation of small water systems and certifications are necessary.
- Does the Water Operator budget line item include money for Rob Gaiotti? No, the money for Rob Gaiotti is included in the clerk's line item.

C. Brooks, Moderator, announced that the Bond Vote was passed by a margin of 88 yes votes to 32 no votes. James Kingston moved and Jordan Dickinson seconded to approve the FY19 Water District budget as presented at \$132,530. Motion carried unanimously.

5. To elect members of the Prudential Committee, one member to a three-year term and two members to one-year terms.

One-year term: Henry Chandler moved and Gay Squire seconded to nominate Abbott de Rham to a one-year term on the Prudential Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

One-year term: May Soohoo moved and Allan Sullivan seconded to nominate Ben Weiss to a one-year term on the Prudential Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Three-year term: S. Hazelton moved and Jim Kingston seconded to nominate Milt McWayne to a three-year term on the Prudential Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk: Shawn Hazelton moved and Henry Chandler seconded to nominate Roger Squire as Clerk of the Prudential Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer: Nancy Faesy moved and Gay Squire seconded to nominate Roger Squire as Treasurer of the Prudential Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Collector of Taxes: Shawn Hazelton moved and Jean Kingston seconded to nominate Rob Gaiotti, Town of Dorset, as Collector of Taxes for the Dorset Fire District #1. Motion carried unanimously.

Moderator: Shawn Hazelton moved and Jean Kingston seconded to nominate Chris Brooks as Moderator for the Dorset Fire District #1. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Wightman moved and James Kingston seconded to adjourn the Dorset Fire District #1 Annual Meeting at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Aversano

Town of Dorset ~ Dorset Fire District #1

Date 5/14/18

Regular Meeting
Annual Special Meeting

(Please Print) Name	Mailing Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes/No)
Jordan F. Dickinson	20 Maple Hill Lane Dorset VT 05251	self	NO
GAY SOLWAYE	P.O. BOX 798 DORSET 05251	self	NO
Vincey Pessy	P.O. BOX 817 DORSET	self	?
Bob Pessy	"	self	No
Henry Chandler	210 Danky Mt. Rd. Dorset	self	?
Bill Wightman	P.O. Box 404 Rennick Lane Dorset	SELF	NO
Mona Wightman	"	"	?
Jean Kingston	3370 RT 30 PO Box 10 Dorset	"	NO
J. KINGSTON	5370 RT 30 "		
May Sothas	P.O. Box 857 Dorset	self	NO
Don Hayward	P.O. Box 857 Dorset	"	NO
Justine Cook	P.O. Box 536, Dorset	self	NO
Virginia Longacre	2533 Route 30 Dorset	self	NO
JOAN MENSEN	1131 RT 30 DORSET	"	"
ROBERT MENSEN	1131 RT 30 DORSET	SELF	NO
D. GREEN	POB 881	"	?
SANFRA WEISS	312 SPRUCE LN.	SELF	NO
THEYA GORALIE	21 PEACE ST	SELF	NO
Allan Sullivan	982 McManna Road	self	NO
Jimi McGinnis	4232 RT30	welder operator	yes
Jim O'Neil III	2354 Donlymn Rd Dorset VT 05251	SELF	NO

Town of Dorset ~ Dorset Fire District #1

Date 5/14/18

Regular Meeting
Annual Special Meeting

(Please Print) Name	Mailing Address	Representing	Testifying (Yes/No)
Dan Zimmerman	P.O. Box 402 Dorset VT 05251	SELF	NO
Sharon Hazellon	433 Pauls Way Dorset	Fire Chief	YES
Sandra Parnham	PO Box 6 05253	town clerk	no