

**ONSET FIRE DISTRICT  
15 SAND POND ROAD PO BOX 44  
ONSET, MASSACHUSETTS  
508-295-6090  
onsetadmin@comcast.net  
onsetfiredistrict.comcastbiz.net**

Meeting Date: October 10, 2019

Meeting Time 5:00PM

1. Open Meeting with Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Pamela Pike opens the meeting at 5:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present are Marcine Fernandes Member, Mary McCoy Clerk-Treasurer, Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary, Sean Osborne OSD, Ken Fontes Water Commissioner, David Halberstadt, Jovina Dean Citizens. Absent Charles Klueber Clerk.

2. Approval of Minutes

Marcine Fernandes motions to approve the minutes of September 26, 2019. Pamela Pike seconds the motion, vote 2-0-0.

Executive Reivew: Pamela Pike would like time to review the Executive Session Minutes before voting on release. Marcine Fernandes concurs. The Executive Session Minutes will be reviewed in Executive Session at the next meeting.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items

There are none

4. Chief Engineer's Reports and Discussions which may include topics pertaining to personnel, payroll, procurements and operations at the Fire Department.

Mary McCoy for Chief Goodwin:

The Fire Department needs 2-3 thousand dollars to repair boat motors and 3 thousand to repair air packs.

The Fire Department budget is in good position for 1st quarter. The m&o and payroll are below budget.

Chief had conversation with Sean Osborne about well 1.

5. Fire Station Building Committee:

a. Update from OPM Joe Sullivan regarding the new Fire Station, design and any other business  
Joe Sullivan is not present.

Pamela Pike states to Sean Osborne that the Zoning Board required a test on well 1 which has been off line for years. Pamela Pike asks if there could be a way to access the well after the Fire Station is built. Sean Osborne states there are two different issues:

1. Has well 1 been officially abandoned?

2. Has the Department of Conservation and Resources allocated any water to that well. DCR allots water, DEP permits usage.

Sean Osborne opinions that Onset currently has 5 very good wells and can survive on 3 so there is no need to refurbish well 1. Sean Osborne states the best move is to officially decommission well 1 so it is off the books. Sean Osborne believes it is cheaper by far to install a new test well for the Fire Station rather than trying to bring well 1 online.

Ken Fontes asks Sean Osborne to start planning on taking the steps to decommission well 1.

6. Water Commissioners: Discussion may include topics pertaining to personnel, financial, procurements and operations at the Water Department.

Ken Fontes states the Water Commissioners are in the process of hiring a primary treatment operator with the licenses to oversee the Water Department for the next 6 months.

Frank Kowzic may be back by end of November.

7. Clerk-Treasurer's Report which may include Health Insurance, Retirement and Financial Topics relating to the business of the Onset Fire District.

Mary McCoy states the cash is not certified yet. There is a new representative from the DOR.

The note for the ladder truck has been renewed at 1.85 interest rate.

The District is going out for bond bid first of Nov for the new Fire Station.

There is close to 1 million in OPEB which will help with the bond rating.

BCBS has not settled with Southcoast Group yet.

8. Update from By-Law Committee

Jovina Dean states the Committee discussed the strong chief law and switching to a five member governing board for the District which would combine the Board of Water Commissioners and the Prudential Committee.

9. Discuss the interviews for the Acting Deputy Position and how to move forward

Pamela Pike would like to table discussion for a full board

10. Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chairs 48 hours in advance of this meeting.

There are none

Marcine Fernandes motions to adjourn at 6:15PM. Pamela Pike seconds the motion, vote 2-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary

**Prudential Committee:**

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Pamela Pike Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_Absent\_\_\_\_\_

Charles Klueber Clerk

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Marcine Fernandes Member

Documents Used: Agenda, Minutes to Sept. 26, 2019

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Meeting Date: October 24, 2019  
Meeting Time 5:00PM

1. Open Meeting with Pledge of Allegiance

Pamela Pike opens the meeting at 5:05PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. Present are Charles Klueber Clerk, Marcine Fernandes Member, Chief Goodwin, Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary, Jovina Dean Citizen.

2. Approval of Minutes

Marcine Fernandes motions to approve the minutes of October 10, 2019. Pamela Pike seconds the motion, vote 2-0-1 with Charles Klueber abstaining.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items

There is none

4. Chief Engineer's Reports and Discussions which may include topics pertaining to personnel, payroll, procurements and operations at the Fire Department.

Chief Goodwin states:

The new squad 1 in service

The radios from the grant are in, still waiting for the grant money due to a computer glitch  
Looking into pricing for the new station alarms and seeing what can be brought over from the old station

During windstorm the Fire Department was very busy, 14-15 calls

Update on Maritime program numbers of work hours will exceed last year. Cost value/ratio is high

The next project is assessment of staffing and looking at new ways of doing things in order to recruit. The recruit numbers are down all over and trying to get creative to garner interest.  
Found problem with some of the air packs and had to replace the circuit boards. Was an issue with the battery used in the pack which caused corrosion.

5. Fire Station Building Committee:

a. Update from OPM Joe Sullivan regarding the new Fire Station, design and any other business

There is none

6. Water Commissioners: Discussion may include topics pertaining to personnel, financial, procurements and operations at the Water Department.

Melissa Goodell recaps the Commissioner's meeting the evening before. The Commissioners are going to have well 1 decommissioned and met with the McKenzie Engineering Group to discuss Woodland Cove and the impact on water and fire services.

7. Clerk-Treasurer's Report which may include Health Insurance, Retirement and Financial Topics relating to the business of the Onset Fire District.

There is none

8. Update from By-Law Committee

There is none

9. Discuss the Acting Deputy Position and how to move forward

Pamela Pike states the process to change the By-Laws to adopt a strong chief will not be quick, even if that is what the By-Law Committee recommends. Pamela Pike feels the Prudential Committee needs to move forward with appointing an Acting Deputy. Pamela Pike asks the Committee if they are prepared to make a recommendation and vote according to the prior interviews. Pamela Pike states the Chief has indicated he will be happy with whoever the Prudential Committee appoints. There is discussion about the interviews and candidates. Marcine Fernandes motions that the Prudential Committee offers the position of Acting Deputy to, and negotiate a contract with, Howard Andersen. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0. Pamela Pike states she will call Howard Andersen and ask him to attend the Prudential Committee Meeting on November 14, 2019 at 5:00PM in Executive Session.

10. Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chairs 48 hours in advance of this meeting.

Pamela Pike states she attended a Planning Board Meeting about Solar Fields bordering Fire District property near the Lyman Reserve. There are questions about the land being "land locked" and legal access to the land. Pamela Pike states the District will be allowed to participate in those discussions when the abutters are notified and meetings are held.

11. Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(7), to comply with or act under authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, specifically M.G.L. c.30A, §22(f) and (g) with regard to the review, approval, and/or consideration for non-disclosure of executive session minutes ( May 1, 2019 and April 25, 2019 C30A S21(a)(2) negotiations with non-union personnel: Mar 22, 2018 C30A s21(a)(1) Health issues of Deputy Osswald: Jan 26, 2018 C30A S21 (a)(5) Charges of Criminal Conduct: Nov. 16, 2017 C30A S21(a)(3) threatened litigation) and/or related appointment of one or more designees, and pursuant to

Charles Klueber motions at 6:05PM to enter Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A, §21(a)(7), to comply with or act under authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, specifically M.G.L. c.30A, §22(f) and (g) with regard to the review, approval, and/or consideration for non-disclosure of executive session minutes ( May 1, 2019 and April 25, 2019 C30A S21(a)(2) negotiations with non-union personnel: Mar 22, 2018 C30A s21(a)(1) Health issues of Deputy Osswald: Jan 26,

2018 C30A S21 (a)(5) Charges of Criminal Conduct: Nov. 16, 2017 C30A S21(a)(3) threatened litigation) and/or related appointment of one or more designees. Marcine Fernandes seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0. Pamela Pike yes, Charles Klueber yes, Marcine Fernandes yes.

12. Executive Session pursuant to Purpose 1 of the Open Meeting Law (M.G.L. c30A S21(a)(1) to consider an Open Meeting Law complaint against a public officer, namely the Prudential Committee officers, such complaint having been filed with the District by Lisa Morales on October 18, 2019; and pursuant to Purpose 7 (M.G.L. c.30A, S21(a)(7) to comply with or act under the authority of a Massachusetts General Law by receiving legal advice from counsel protected from disclosure under Massachusetts General Law with the relevant citations of law being M.G.L. c.4 S7(26); M.G.L. c30A, S21(a)(1); and M.G.L. c214, S1B

Marcine Fernandes motions at 5:35PM to enter Executive Session pursuant to Purpose 1 of the Open Meeting Law (M.G.L. c30A S21(a)(1) to consider an Open Meeting Law complaint against a public officer, namely the Prudential Committee officers, such complaint having been filed with the District by Lisa Morales on October 18, 2019; and pursuant to Purpose 7 (M.G.L. c.30A, S21(a)(7) to comply with or act under the authority of a Massachusetts General Law by receiving legal advice from counsel protected from disclosure under Massachusetts General Law with the relevant citations of law being M.G.L. c.4 S7(26); M.G.L. c30A, S21(a)(1); and M.G.L. c214, S1B. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0. Pamela Pike yes, Marcine Fernandes yes, Charles Klueber yes.

13. Reconvene in Open Session to vote on Open Meeting Law complaint

Charles Klueber states he approves of the response to the Open Meeting Law Complaint. The meeting did start one half hour after the posted time, but the Members did not discuss business of the District while signing warrants, they discussed families and social issues.

Marcine Fernandes motions to have Pamela Pike sign the response to the Open Meeting Law Complaint as written and send it to Ms Morales via electronic mail and first class mail. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0.

Marcine Fernandes motions to adjourn at 6:20PM. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary

**Prudential Committee:**

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Pamela Pike Chairman

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Charles Klueber Clerk

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Marcine Fernandes Member

Documents Used: Agenda, Minutes to October 10, 2019, site plan for proposed Solar Development, Open Meeting Law Complaint Response