

**ONSET FIRE DISTRICT
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Meeting Date: November 14, 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 Charles Klueber Clerk, Marcine Fernandes Member, Chief Goodwin, Captain Andersen, Mary McCoy Clerk-Treasurer, Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary, Joe Sullivan OPM, Jacki Nichols Assessor, Diane DiStolfo, David Halberstadt Citizens. Summit Ridge Energy represented by Stephannie Sienkowski, Kate Parker and Paul Rogers. Land Owner Nazih Elkallassi.

2. Approval of Minutes

Marcine Fernandes motions to approve the Minutes of October 24, 2019. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda items

There is none.

4. Tax Classification Hearing to set the tax rate

Marcine Fernandes motions to open the tax classification hearing at 5:10PM. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0.

Jacki Nichols speaks to an all residential tax rate with a factor of 1 versus a split tax rate and hands out literature to illustrate the differences. In the past the District has always voted for a factor of 1; which means business and residential are taxed the same.

Jacki Nichols states there was a town wide revaluation this year, and the final certification of value, shows overall residential value is up 5% and business is up 6%.

Pamela Pike asks for any participation from citizens present. There is none.

Marcine Fernandes motions to close the hearing at 5:20PM. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0.

Charles Klueber motions for single residential tax factor of 1.0. Marcine Fernandes seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0.

5. Meeting with Summit Ridge Energy to discuss proposed Solar Field that abuts District Property

Proposal for Solar Ridge

Nazih talks about access. He says he has the right to pass on gravel road owned by the District. He says his Attorney told him he cannot improve the road without District's permission; but he can use the road. Nazih states he will bring the full report from his attorney.

Cate Parker states there are a lot of approvals to go through before anything else can be started and Summit Ridge Energy has not begun that process. Cate Parker states the solar field will power about 200 homes; so it is a small solar field.

Construction would take about 5 weeks

Pamela Pike asks what the potential impact it would have on the District Water Supply. Paul Rogers states there is an option of allowing the panels to burn out in case of fire.

Cate Parker will follow up with spec sheets for the chemical agent used in the solar panels.

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

Combined with Fire Station Building Report

7. Fire Station Building Committee:

a. Update from OPM Joe Sullivan regarding the new Fire Station, design and any other business. Joe Sullivan states the fence is up around the site. There will be a kick off meeting with the contractor on Tuesday November 19, 2019. Will be developing a 6 week look ahead schedule and then a master schedule for the project.

Joe Sullivan states he had a call about Wampanoag history on the site and will deal with it. Need to check to see if it is a burial ground.

General Contractor will take down the out of commission well house next week.

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

There is none

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

Mary E. McCoy states the audit has been completed and there are no deficiencies.

On November 20, 2019 Mary E. McCoy will meet with Bruce Almeida and Lynn Foster for a conferencecall with bond counsel for the new fire station.

8. Update from By-Law Committee

Pamela Pike states the By Law Committee will meet again in January. At the last meeting the Committee discussed adopting the Strong Chief statute. Pamela Pike states Attorney Sumners does not recommend a Strong Chief.

The By-Law Committee also discussed ways to consolidate the Prudential Committee and Water Commissioners into one Board to govern the District. Attorney Sumners strongly recommended not pursuing this option because of several perceived conflicts.

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

There are none.

12. Marcine Fernandes motions to enter Executive Session at 6:15PM pursuant to M.G.L. c.30A S21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel namely Howard Andersen and to return to open session for the sole purpose of adjourning. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0. Pamela Pike yes, Charles Klueber yes, Marcine Fernandes yes.

13. Adjourn in open session

Motion to adjourn by Marcine Fernandes at 6:45PM. Charles Klueber seconds the motion, vote 3-0-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Melissa Goodell Recording Secretary

Prudential Committee:

Pamela Pike Chairman

Charles Klueber Clerk

Marcine Fernandes Member

Documents Used: Agenda, Minutes of October 24, 2019, Tax Classification handout, Summit Ridge Energy pamphlet

