

ONSET FIRE DISTRICT

ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 20, 2024

WARRANT

Plymouth County, SS.

TO: Mary E. McCoy – Clerk Treasurer

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Onset Fire District, qualified to vote in the District Affairs, to meet in the Onset Fire Station, 8 Sand Pond Road, Onset, Massachusetts, on Monday evening May 20, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE: 1

To hear reports of Officers and Committees, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE:2

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to enter into Compensating Balance Agreements, as permitted by Massachusetts General laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE:3

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Clerk-Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, to borrow in anticipation of revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, in accordance with the Massachusetts General laws, Chapter 44, section 4 and the Acts in amendment thereof, and including in addition thereto, Chapter 849 of the Acts of 1969, as amended, and to renew any note or notes as may be given for a period of less than one year in accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, section 17 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE:4

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the salaries of the following officers for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025; or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Clerk-Treasurer	\$121,500.00
Prudential Committee	\$ 7,500.00
Moderator	\$ 200.00

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE:5

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of money for the following: All District Insurance, Meetings and Elections, All Other Expenses, Contingent Reserve, Ply. County Retirement, Blue Cross Blue Shield, etc. FICA/Medicare, Legal Fees, Audit, Clerk-Treasurer’s General Expenses, Unemployment Comp., Deferred Compensation, and Indemnification, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on June 30, 2025 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

	FY24	FY25	Difference
Meetings & Elections	10,000.00	10,000.00	-
All Others Expenses	12,500.00	12,500.00	-
Medicare/FICA	21,500.00	25,000.00	3,500.00
District Insurance	100,000.00	120,000.00	20,000.00
Contingent Reserve	15,000.00	15,000.00	-
Ply.County Retirement	216,800.00	235,000.00	18,200.00
BC/Blue Shield	484,000.00	569,000.00	85,000.00
Deferred Compensation	10,000.00	5,000.00	(5,000.00)
Legal Fees	60,000.00	50,000.00	(10,000.00)
Audit	50,000.00	50,000.00	-
Indemnification	15,000.00	15,000.00	-
Clerk-Treasurer-Gen Expense	124,700.00	122,700.00	(2,000.00)
Unemployment	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
	-	-	-
TOTAL	1,121,500.00	1,231,200.00	109,700.00

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE:6

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$59,000.00 for Clerical and Administrative expense for the Town of Wareham for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 7

To see the District will vote to transfer from the general fund the proceeds of the sale of 240 Onset Avenue, balance in full plus interest; final payment August 2024 to account # 104.5422 Disposal of Old Fire Station for the period ending June 30, 2025 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 8

To see the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 for the Old Fire Station Disposal account #104.5422 for the period beginning July 1, 2024 ending June 30, 2025 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 9

To see if the District will vote to transfer from the following accounts:

<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
104.5420 Generator	104.5422-Old Fire Station Disposal	\$ 14,430.22
104.5409 Blue Cross	104.5422-Old Fire Station Disposal	\$150,0000.00

for the period ending June 30, 2024 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE:10

To see if the District will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$100,000.00 for the debt & interest due on the loan for the Fire Station for the period ending June 30, 2024 or act anything thereon or thereunto

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 11

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$385,000.00 from taxation for the debt & interest due on the loan for Fire Station for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE:12

To see if the District will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$45,000.00 for a new account Survey of District Property for the period ending June 30, 2024 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 13

To see if the District will vote to transfer from free cash the sum of \$50,000.00, to “Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund” or OPEB Trust Fund as defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statements 43 and 45 for the purpose of funding future financial obligations of the District for health insurance benefits of retirees. The District Treasurer shall be the custodian of the OPEB Trust fund, or to act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 14:

To see if the District will vote to amend Article 28 of the March 15, 2023 Annual Meeting as adopted by vote of the District Meeting by striking the language of said Article and inserting in place thereof the following:

Full-time employees of the District shall be entitled to military leave benefits and protections from the District to the same extent as applicable to employees of the commonwealth under M.G.L. c.33, §59, as may be amended from time to time.

Submitted by and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 15

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of:
\$391,410.74 for the salaries of the Board of Engineers, who shall act as permanent firefighters of the Fire Department and shall be paid as follows or as set by any collective bargaining agreements.

Personnel Payroll	FY 25	
Chief Engineer - 5201	\$127,679.97	
Chief Engineer Holiday Pay-5206	\$7,363.60	
Assistant Engineer - 5202	\$96,624.63	
Assistant Engineer Overtime -	\$33,181.53	
Assistant Engineer - Total	\$129,806.16	
Assistant Engineer - 5203	\$94,209.01	
Assistant Engineer Overtime -	\$32,352.00	
Assistant Engineer - Total	\$126,561.01	

For the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2024, and ending June 30th, 2025, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and Approved by the Fire Chief

Approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 16

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of: \$1,244,646.08 for the payroll account of the Fire Department, which shall cover the hourly wages for emergencies, drills, details, shift coverages, stipends, and longevity pay as set by the Chief Engineer, for each hour or half-hour thereof, at the following rates or as specified by collective bargaining agreements.

PAYROLL	FY 24	FY 25	Diff.(%)
CAPTAIN S/C	\$30.54	32.37	6%
CAPTAIN S/C	\$29.33	31.09	6%
INSPECTOR	\$26.89	28.50	6%
FIREFIGHTER	\$23.01	24.39	6%
FIREFIGHTER NEW	\$22.10	23.43	6%
CALL DEPARTMENT	FY 24	FY 25	Diff.(%)
CAPTAINS	\$24.56	\$24.81	1%
LIEUTENANTS	\$23.39	\$23.62	1%
FIREFIGHTERS	\$22.19	\$22.41	1%
SUB FIREFIGHTERS	\$20.99	\$21.20	1%
DISPATCHERS / AER	\$22.19	\$22.41	1%
RECRUITS	\$15.00	\$15.00	0%
INTERNS	\$15.00	\$15.00	0%

Longevity Pay, Permanent personnel:

05 years – 10 years = \$175.00, 11 years – 15 years = \$200.00, 16 years – 20 years = \$300.00 21 years – 25 years = \$400.00, 25 + years = \$500.00

Driver / Operator stipends: \$50.00 per major piece of apparatus, not to exceed \$350.00 per driver/ operator, before December 31st and 100 paid incidents.

Stipends: Permanent personnel, \$400.00 per contractual qualification; Call personnel, \$250.00 per qualification, before December 31st and 100 paid incidents.

Stipends categories: Emergency Medical Technician (All Levels), Hazardous Materials Technician, Technical Team Member (All Disciplines), Department of Fire Services Instructor, Fire Alarm Technician, Emergency Vehicle Technician Certifications, Certified Fire Alarm Technician, Chief Fire Officer, Fire Inspector, and Executive Fire Officer or as set by any Collective Bargaining Agreements for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2024 and ending June 30th, 2025, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and Approved by the Fire Chief

ARTICLE: 17

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of: \$393,000.00 for the following existing and new Fire Department accounts:

Operating Budget	FY 24	FY 25	Difference (\$)
102.5209 Maintenance & Operation New	\$175,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$25,000.00
102.5210 Maintenance & Operation OLD	\$3,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$17,000.00
103.2022 Matching Funds	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
103.5210 Fire Hose Maintenance	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$10,000.00
103.5212 PPE Purchase & Maintenance	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
103.5215 Apparatus Repair	\$30,000.00	\$20,000.00	-\$10,000.00
103.5217 Generator	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00
103.5222 Radios Maintenance	\$5,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00
103.5225 Haz-Mat	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
103.5231 Rescue Tools	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
103.5238 Computers/Phones/Electronics	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00	-\$1,000.00
103.5239 Fire Alarm	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
103.5240 Rescue Boat	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00	-\$2,000.00
103.5245 Training Programs	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
103.5251 Air Pack/Comp Maintenance	\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$0.00
103.5252 Defibrillator/CPR	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	-\$2,000.00
103.5256 New Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
103.5258 New Vehicle	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
103.5261 Cran Hwy Expansion	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
103.5263 Thermal Imager	\$12,000.00	\$8,000.00	-\$4,000.00
103.5266 Health & Wellness	\$8,000.00	\$3,000.00	-\$5,000.00
103.5267 Contractual Benefits & Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
103.5269 Gear Washer	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	-\$1,000.00
103.5270 Fire Station	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTALS	\$356,000.00	\$393,000.00	\$37,000.00

Special appropriation funds are to be added to monies now available for the described purposes for the fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2024, and ending June 30th, 2025, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and Approved by the Fire Chief

ARTICLE:18

To see if the District will vote to authorize and direct the Clerk-Treasurer to transfer any and all Cranberry Highway Project re-imbusement monies into the fire department Fire Alarm account number 103.5239 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by Chief Engineer

ARTICLE:19

To see if the District will vote to authorize and direct the Clerk-Treasurer to transfer any remaining funds after transfers into the New Vehicle Account number 103.5258 from remaining funds at the close of the 2024 fiscal year from the Fire Department payroll account 102.5207, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and Approved by the Fire Chief

ARTICLE:20

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, from Water Department Revenue, the sum of \$592,000.00 into the Water Department's "Payroll" account for the Water Department personnel and the Water Superintendent, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 21

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate from Water Department Revenue the sum of \$1,132,100.00 for following: M&O, Medical Insurance, Property Insurance & Workers Compensation, Plymouth County Retirement, FICA/Medicare, Meter Revitalization, Debt & Interest, and Property Survey, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

	FY 2024	FY 2025	DIFFERENCE
M&O	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
MEDIICAL INSURANCE	\$ 375,000.00	\$ 390,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
PROPERTY INSURANCE	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 110,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
PLYMOUTH COUNTY RETIREMENT	\$ 157,000.00	\$ 173,100.00	\$ 16,100.00
MEDICARE/FICA	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 200.00
METER REVITALIZATION PROGRAM	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -	\$ (10,000.00)
DEBT & INTEREST	\$ 175,000.00	\$ 175,000.00	\$ -
PROPERTY SURVEY	\$ -	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
GRANT MONEY	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	\$1,055,800.00	\$ 1,132,100.00	\$ 76,300.00

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 22

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, from Water Department Revenue, the sum of \$7,500.00 into the Water Department’s “Board of Water Commissioners” account #5509 for the salaries of the Board of Water Commissioners, to be disbursed equally, for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2024 and ending on June 30, 2025 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE:23

To see if the District will vote to authorize and direct the Clerk-Treasurer to transfer the balance of monies into the following accounts at the close of the Fiscal Year 2024 or act anything thereon or thereunto.

FROM	TO	AMOUNT	
6005.5529 - BCBS	6006.5519 WELL RENOVATION	\$60,000.00	
6005.5529 - BCBS	6006.5547 METER PROGRAM	\$62,000.00	
6005.5529 - BCBS	New Account Grant Money		BALANCE AFTER ALL TRANSFERS
6005.5001 - PAYROLL	6006.5547 METER PROGRAM	\$72,000.00	
6005.5001 - PAYROLL	6006.5519 WELL RENOVATION	\$25,000.00	
6005.5001 - PAYROLL	New Account Grant Money		BALANCE AFTER ALL TRANSFERS
6006.5502 - METERS	6006.5547 METER PROGRAM	\$6,644.93	
6006.5562 MINI BACKHOE	6006.5520 WATER SER TRUCK	1,137.00	

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 24

To see if the District will vote to transfer from Solar Panel Funds the sum of \$47,946.00 into the Future Stand Pipe Account#6006.5545 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025 or act anything thereon or thereunto
Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 25

To see if the District will vote to transfer from the Solar Panel Funds the sum of \$15,982.00 to “Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund” or OPEB Trust Fund as defined in Governmental Accounting Standards Board, Statements 43 and 45 for the purpose of funding future financial obligations of the District for health insurance benefits of retirees. The District Treasurer shall be the custodian of the OPEB Trust fund, for the Fiscal Year 2024 or to act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 26

To see the District will vote to rescind the unanimous vote on Article 36, at the Annual District Meeting held on Monday, May 16, 2022.
Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 27

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate from water revenue or borrow or transfer from available funds the sum \$350,000.00 for electrical and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) upgrades and acquisition and installation of emergency power generator equipment, propane tanks, variable frequency drives and appurtenances necessary to provide emergency backup power for use at Well 6; including all cost incidental. The District will be applying for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Program (MVP) these grants will cover the cost of seventy five percent (75%) of said monies. These types of grants are designed for projects specifically like this. If the HMGP or MVP grants is awarded it can provide reimbursable funding up to \$262,500.00 to the District related thereto. This article requesting \$350,000.00 is contingent upon Onset Water Department being approved for this or other related grant if not obtained this appropriation is null and void or to act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 28

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate from water revenue or borrow or transfer from available funds the sum \$350,000.00 for electrical and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) upgrades and acquisition and installation of emergency power generator equipment, propane tanks, variable frequency drives and appurtenances necessary to provide emergency backup power for use at Well 5; including all cost incidental. The District will be applying for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Program (MVP) these grants will cover the cost of seventy five percent (75%) of said monies. These types of grants are designed for projects specifically like this. If the HMGP or MVP grants is awarded it can provide reimbursable funding up to \$262,500.00 to the District related thereto. This article requesting \$350,000.00 is contingent upon Onset Water Department being approved for this or other related grant if not obtained this appropriation is null and void or to act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Board of Water Commissioners 2-0-0

ARTICLE: 29

To see if the District will vote to approve the collective bargaining agreement between the Onset Fire District and the Wareham Firefighters, Local 2810 - Unit B (Onset Members) IAFF, for the period of July 01, 2024 through June 30, 2027, or act anything thereon or thereunto.

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

ARTICLE: 30

To choose the following officers, all to be on one ballot, one (1) Moderator. a one year term: one (1) member of the Prudential Committee for a 3-year term: one (1) Water Commissioner for a 3- year term:

Submitted and approved by the Prudential Committee: 3-0-0

You are hereby directed to serve this Warrant by posting attested copies of the same in two (2) public places, seven (7) days at least, before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands at Onset, this 11th Day of April; in the year 2024

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE:

Pamela Pike, Chair

Marcine Fernandes, Clerk

Karl Baptiste, Member

Mary E. McCoy
Clerk

Attest: True Copy