

**North Branch Fire District #1  
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**THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE  
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the North Branch Fire District #1, Prudential Committee, January 18, 2017.

This Meeting, having been duly warned, was called to order at 11:04 a.m. by Chairman, Hobart Terhune.

**Members Present:** Thomas Ferrazza, Hobie Terhune, Edward Barber, Cyndee Frere and Daniel Facilla.

**Also Present:** Adam Levine, Edward Floyd, Bart Howes and Linda Holland.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Discuss Proposed Plant Upgrade/Priorities/Alternatives:** Facilla stated that he feels the reason we are here is because part of what we are trying to do is getting lost in the shuffle. What we are trying to do is to get this plant back to zero. In other words, it's been forty years and what have we been doing over the past fifteen years or twenty years out there in the pond. Facilla asked Howes if we need four people on staff to operate the treatment facility. Howes stated that during the summer we definitely need four on staff due to manhole inspections, cell head installations and ongoing summer maintenance.

Facilla asked if the upgrade to the sprayfield will eliminate some of the freeze ups or all of them. Howes stated potentially the problems, if we have one, could be larger. Floyd stated other systems get one to two freeze ups a year; North Branch gets one to two freeze ups every month. Floyd explained that the frost in the ground will heave the lines creating low spots. If those spots don't drain they will freeze creating a small split in the line. It is time consuming to take the line down and repair the split. The solenoid valves currently use by North Branch is not used anywhere else to the best of Floyd's knowledge. Floyd stated the solenoid valves we currently use are "a nightmare waiting to happen because they are a water controlled electronic valve in below freezing temperatures." The proposed system will drain directly back to the holding pond.

Ferrazza reminded the Committee that right now we have the opportunity to do this at a lower rate that we may not be able to get later. Howes stated that the Polishing Pond

liner could wait one to three years, if we needed it, but it would be cheaper to do both ponds all at once.

Frere suggested billing people on a tiered structure. One fee for the “users”, one for those within the 250 feet and the lowest to those residents with no current potential of a hookup. The next hearing, on the Bond, is to finalize how we are charging. Frere also stated that we should not be presenting “options” for the public to decide on what items get constructed.

Floyd suggested using “user” units. For example a four bedroom house is a “user” unit; however, a 6 bedroom house is a two “user” unit.

The Committee decided to place the bond financing on the agenda for their February 8<sup>th</sup>. 2017 regular meeting.

Barber moved to hold a public hearing at the Dover Town Hall on March 20<sup>th</sup>. 2017, as required by State statute, to once again discuss the Bond for the plant upgrade. Seconded by Ferrazza. Passed unanimously.

Terhune adjourned the meeting at 1:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Linda L. Holland,  
Administrative Manager

**cc:** H. Terhune, D. Facilla, E. Barber, E. Floyd, T. Ferrazza, Cyndee Frere, Bart Howes, Ed Floyd, Joe Mahon, Amiee Pritcher, Arlene Palmiter, Donald Albano, Linda Anelli, Adam Levine, Jeannie Flanagan, Leslie Fraser, Ashleigh Perkins, Laurie Newton, Robert Rubin, Ray Reed, John Densmore, Cliff Turpin, Rolf Parker-Houghton, G. Golet, S. Mac Dougall, L. Harkawik, R. William, Deerfield Valley News and the Brattleboro Reformer.

**Posted:** North Branch Fire District #1, Wastewater Treatment Facility & Administrations Building. Dover Town Office.