

**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, October 5, 2016.

This Meeting, having been duly warned, was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Chairman, Hobart Terhune.

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

Absent: Edward Barber.

Also Present: Edward Floyd, Bart Howes, Rebecca Snow and Linda Holland.

Public Comment: None.

Discuss Preliminary Engineering for Proposed Upgrades: Facilla asked Floyd “what if we left the two original clarifiers and installed one new one”. Floyd responded by stating “one clarifier would be able to handle the plant except during peak periods of flow”. Floyd explained that the plant needs full clarification all winter and suggests building at least one clarifier for now. A new clarifier costs approximately \$600,000.00. To rebuild two old clarifiers also cost approximately \$600,000.00. It may be possible to save \$25,000.00 for each new clarifier if we don’t go as deep. Frere asked if we could use one new clarifier and supplement with an old one. Floyd stated that we still need two during peak times and the old clarifiers we now have do not have the ability to skim properly. The Committee is leaning in the direction of installing two new clarifiers.

It was brought to the Committee’s attention that the pipe between the Polishing Pond and the Holding Pond needs to be at a lower level.

The Committee also discussed the cost to refurbish the lawn and walkways.

It is important for the community to know that this is not an expansion of the treatment facility; it is replacing equipment that will meet the current needs.

In preparation of the October 24, 2016 Hearing we will need the following:

1. 30 sheets showing the option selected by the Prudential Committee.
2. 20 tear sheets of summary.
3. Estimated bill increase for the bond.
4. Find out rate range. Equal payment over 30 years.

The information listed above will be ready for the Regular Meeting of the Prudential Committee on October 19, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

Holland stated that she had been asked by several people if the bond for the upgrade would be billed to the “users” only, or, would it be billed throughout the Fire District.

What is the cost for a “user” or “non-user”? Could it be broken up as a flat fee? Commercial rates are charged at other plants, would that be feasible? Maybe a bond tax based on the list value of the property, as was the case in the original bond? Questions the Prudential Committee will take under consideration. The Fire District currently has 1,921 metered users and a total of 3,620 properties within the District. (1,699 properties not currently connected).

Select an Engineer for the Proposed Upgrades: Ferrazza moved to go into Executive Session at 12:05 p.m. for contractual matters. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously. Ferrazza moved to come out of Executive Session at 12:12 p.m. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously.

Ferrazza stated that the Committee is under the impression that the prices for engineering are enough to have an on-site person all day, every day. Floyd stated “yes there will be a person on the job every day and Floyd plans to be available one or two ½ days per week.

The Committee asked if the numbers for the actual work were highly researched. Floyd believes the construction costs and the contingency is good. Floyd stated “I am confident these plans with the 20% contingency are good unless construction costs rise do too busy contractors”.

Ferrazza move to hire Edward Floyd, Technicon PC, as the project engineer. Seconded by Frere. Passed unanimously.

Other Business: Howes will E-mail the resumes received for the position of “operator” to the Committee for review.

Terhune moved to adjourn at 12:20 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, Deerfield Valley News and the Brattleboro Reformer.

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