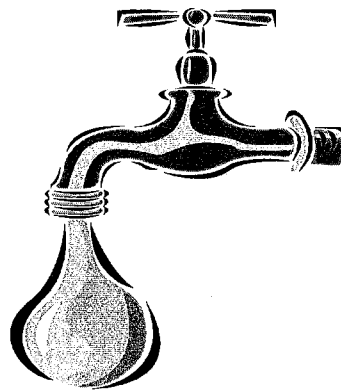


WALLINGFORD FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

WALLINGFORD, VT 05773

2022



~ANNUAL MEETING~

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023

7:00 P.M.

WALLINGFORD TOWN HALL

(UPSTAIRS)

VOTING ON ALL BUDGETS WILL
TAKE PLACE AT THE ANNUAL
MEETING

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Wallingford Fire District No. 1
75 School Street
P.O. Box 87
Wallingford, VT 05773
802-446-2964 (Office)

Wallingford Fire District No. 1 Officers

	YEAR ELECTED	TERM EXPIRES
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE		
Bill Brooks	2022	2025
Kevin Vaughn	2020	2023
Kandie Stocker	2021	2024
CLERK (3 Year Term)		
Marianne McClure	2021	2024
TREASURER (3 Year Term)		
Marianne McClure	2021	2024
MODERATOR (1 Year Term)		
Dennis Stocker	2022	2023
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTOR (3 Year Term)		
Marianne McClure	2021	2024
AUDITORS (1 Year Term)		
Amy Grover	2022	2023
Chelsey Keyes	2022	2023
FIRE CHIEF (1 Year Term)		
Michael Hughes	2022	2023
DEPUTY CHIEF (1 Year Term)		
John Thomson	2022	2023
DEPUTY CHIEF (1 Year Term)		
Mark Barone	2022	2023

Wallingford Fire District No. 1
WARNING
April 18, 2023

The legal voters of Fire District No. 1, Wallingford, Vermont are hereby warned to meet at the Wallingford Town Hall (75 School Street) on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for the Annual Fire District Meeting to act upon the following articles. Face masks are recommended for those who are not fully vaccinated for COVID-19.

Article 01. Will the District vote to approve and authorize the Prudential Committee to expend the specific amounts of monies to be appropriated for all necessary Water/Sewer Fund expenses and apportioned by the Prudential Committee for the several purposes provided as per the proposed 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget in the amount of \$446,857.60?

Article 02. Will the District vote to approve and authorize the Prudential Committee to expend the specific amounts of monies to be appropriated for all necessary General Fund expenses and apportioned by the Prudential Committee for the several purposes provided as per the proposed 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget in the amount of \$84,090.00?

Article 03. Will the District vote to approve and authorize the Prudential Committee to expend the specific amounts of monies to be appropriated for all necessary Fire Protection Fund expenses and apportioned by the Prudential Committee for the several purposes provided as per the proposed 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget in the amount of \$ 142,830.00?

Article 04. Will the District vote to have all Fire District Taxes, Water Bond, Water/Sewer Rents payable to the Wallingford Fire District #1 when due?

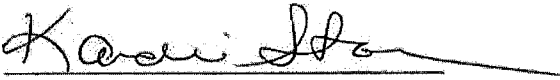
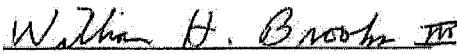

Article 05. Will the District authorize the Prudential Committee to borrow such monies as may be necessary to meet the operation expenses of the District?

Article 06. To elect all Fire District Officers required by law.

Article 07. Will the District vote to approve the reports as submitted?

Article 8. To act on any legal and necessary business.

The Prudential Committee:

Kandie Stocker	
William Brooks	
Kevin Vaughn	

Wallingford, Vermont: Dated this 15th day of **March, 2023**

AUDITOR'S REPORT

We, the auditors of Wallingford Fire District No. 1, have examined the cash receipts and disbursements for the accounts pertaining to the Water Fund, Water Bond Fund, Sewer Fund, General Fund, Snowplow Replacement Fund and Fire Protection Fund. To the best of our knowledge and belief, the following financial statements are in balance and present fairly the condition of the Fire District #1 and its operations for 2021-2022 Fiscal Year.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chelsey LaRock Chelsey LaRock 3/6/23
Amy Grover Amy Grover 3/6/23

Chairperson's Report

This year has been a better year with COVID being here still. We had our Annual meeting last year at the Wallingford Firehouse. This year we are having our annual meeting at the Wallingford Town Hall.

The operators of the water and sewer plant have been doing a great job of keeping both operations functioning smoothly. They deal with problems quickly and they are very considerate of the true cost of operations. As a board member, it is very reassuring to have them. They are always mindful of doing what is most beneficial to the district on a long-term basis.

The lodge is doing well. Our caretaker, Dennis Phillips, has been doing a wonderful job with the upkeep on the building and grounds to ensure the safety of our guests who rent at the lodge.

We are still having an issue with people disposing of rags, diapers, and other things that should not be flushed into the sewer. This has caused us to prematurely need to replace a few mechanical parts at the sewer plant, which is costly. Unfortunately, if it continues to happen, it will cost the taxpayers in the district. So please be mindful of what you are flushing.

This year the sewer and water system has had its 20-year evaluation. One of the things that was evaluated were the manholes in town; they passed and are in great shape. We are now awaiting the final evaluation from the engineer.

This year we had a pump go down with the water system, and we are grateful for the operators of the water and sewer being on top of this with no interruption with water service to everyone in the water district. Thankfully, we purchased a new pump a couple of years ago with anticipation of the pump being over 20 years old. If we did not have the spare on hand, we could have been without water for several weeks.

It has always been our motto and goal to "Be Good Stewards" of the district's finances and that commitment will continue unabated.

Our monthly meetings are always open to the public and we welcome any and all who wish to attend. Please verify the meeting night and time on the Wallingford Town Website. We are able to email your sewer and water bills to you. If you are interested in having this done, please contact the Fire District office or send an email to wallfired1@vermontel.net.

Thank You All!

Kandie Stocker, Prudential Committee Chair.

2022 Water and Wastewater Departments' Report

This was a very productive year in both departments, keeping the crews extremely busy, with several projects being completed.

The first planned project was to complete the State's required 20-year wastewater collection and treatment facility evaluation. The finished report will be available from engineering in March. The collection system was evaluated, and the manhole structures along with the ejector station all appeared to be in very good condition. The piping was not inspected at this time. The wastewater facility evaluation was overall good, but the plant is still utilizing 1970's era equipment and technology, and the structures are showing signs of aging. Projects at the WWTF included replacing an influent pump, replacing the chemical feed lines and ventilation fans, and cleaning the influent pump station. Rags in the wastewater stream remain to be an issue. The WWTF experienced flooding again this spring. Several storms also caused tree and property damage.

There was one significant repair made to the abandoned water system along Rte. 140 East. A pipe had broken under the road surface just up from a bridge structure creating a significant sink hole. Three spring boxes were plugged, the pipe was dug up and the water is now being diverted back into Roaring Brook.

There were several minor water leak repairs and maintenance issues of the water distribution lines, mostly from individual service lines. One major repair occurred on Meacham Street where a fire hydrant needed to be replaced. Three new services were installed on Depot Street to replace failing galvanized piping under South Main Street.

The new water meters have provided several positive outcomes that have detected many leaks within the homes. New meters are being read monthly to identify potential leaks and help reduce water loss.

None of this could have happened without the joint efforts of the onsite SOS staff and the support of the Prudential Committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Christopher Hayes
Regional Manager
Simon Operation Services

Caretaker's Report

The 2022 Season went off with no issues. We were booked most of the 2022 Season. I am looking forward to what 2023, brings and I have some projects that I would like to get done.

Respectfully submitted;

Dennis Phillips
Caretaker of the Wallingford Lodge

LODGE BUDGET

		<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
		Jul '21-June '22	Jul '22-Jan '23	Jul '22-June'23	Jul '23-June '24
4500 · LODGE FUND INCOME					
	45XX-Prior year Carry Over (Loss)	\$ (6,693.74)	\$ 12,241.83		
	4501 · Rentals	\$ 38,250.00	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 43,760.00	\$ 49,230.00
	4502 - Miscellaneous Income	\$ 7,134.85	\$ -		
Total 4500 · INCOME		\$38,691.11	\$ 39,741.83	\$43,760.00	\$49,230.00
5500 - LODGE EXPENSE					
	5501 · Caretaker's Fee & FICA	\$ 7,996.46	\$ 4,686.76	\$ 8,260.00	\$ 8,530.00
	5503 · Caretaker's Cabin Repairs	\$ 179.95	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	5504 · Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 1,159.57	\$ 214.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	5508 · Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 557.00	\$ 288.59	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
	5509 · Road Maintenance	\$ 186.66	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5510 · Rubbish Removal	\$ 831.65	\$ 812.39	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,700.00
	5511 · Supplies	\$ 2,545.60	\$ 1,582.05	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
	5513 · Lodge Utilities	\$ 4,056.71	\$ 3,894.41	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,500.00
	5515 · Contracted Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	5516 · Real Estate Tax	\$ 8,736.68	\$ 4,217.80	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
	5517 · Insurance	\$ 199.00	\$ 47.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00
Total 5500 · LODGE EXPENSES		\$ 26,449.28	\$ 15,743.00	\$ 43,760.00	\$ 49,230.00
YEAR OVER (LOSS)		\$ 12,241.83			

The Wallingford Fire Chief's Report for 2022

The Wallingford Fire Department had a very successful 2022. We provided assistance, just under 100 times in 2022 for emergency and non-emergency situations throughout the year. Some examples of our responses were: structure fires, auto accidents, carbon monoxide, alarms, wildland fires, assist Wallingford Rescue with entry to locked areas, also lift assist with rescue, car fires, mutual aid to area towns, elevator rescues, burnt food on the stove, etc.

The department was able to achieve its goal of firefighter training at the same level as a full-time professional fire department, at 24 hours per month or 288 hours per firefighter each year. This training takes place virtually as well as at the fire station on Tuesday evenings throughout the year. We also utilize additional resources for training, with area departments, Wallingford Rescue for CPR, the State Fire Academy etc.

We have also made progress with our "Lights on for Safety" program. This program asks you, if you have an emergency at your home, and it is safe for you to do, please turn on as many lights on, in your house while we are responding. This will make it more visible and easier for the fire and rescue departments to find you. But again, only if it is safe to do so.

We have a good roster of men and women volunteers currently, but we are always looking for additional people to join our department, with or without experience, as we will train and help you grow with us. We also have a Junior program, for ages 13 through 17. If you have an interest or would just like to stop in and see us on a Tuesday evening at the fire station, we would love to meet you.

My last request is that you review the location of your house number and assure that it is visible from your street, so we can find you quickly.

Please have a safe 2023, and thank you for your support.

Michael Hughes
Fire Chief

FIRE PROTECTION BUDGET

		Actual	Actual	Budget	Proposed Budget
		July '21-Jun '22	July '22-Dec'22	July '22-June '23	July '23-June '24
4400 · FIRE PROTECTION INCOME					
	44XX-Prior year Carry Over (Loss)	\$ 16,067.97	\$ 20,881.01		
	4401 · Interest - Checking	\$ 25.76	\$ 42.98	\$ 20.00	\$ 20.00
	4402 · Contract Payment from Town/Tax	\$ 109,967.46	\$ 52,597.11	\$ 123,280.00	\$ 142,810.00
	4403 · Miscellaneous Income				
Total 4400 · FIRE PROTECTION INCOME		\$ 126,061.19	\$ 73,521.10	\$ 123,300.00	\$ 142,830.00
5400 - FIRE PROTECTION EXPENSE					
	5401 · Administrative Expense	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 8,100.00
	5404 · Emergency Phone	\$ 380.60	\$ 232.60	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5405 · State Dispatching Annual Fee	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00
	5406 · Office Equipment Expense	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
	5407 · Utilities	\$ 7,801.37	\$ 2,802.06	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
	5408 · Chief's Stipend & FICA	\$ 1,345.63	\$ 1,614.75	\$ 1,625.00	\$ 1,625.00
	5411 · Attorney Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5412 · Insurance Expense	\$ 7,603.29	\$ 3,313.93	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
	5413 · Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 320.37	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5416 · Education/Training Expense	\$ 2,467.35	\$ 327.57	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	5417 · Fire Hydrants/Dry Hydrants	\$ 3,787.55	\$ 840.65	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	5419 · Firefighter Equipment	\$ 23,752.49	\$ 84.90	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
	5420 · Pager/Radio/Computer/Software	\$ 2,970.00	\$ 987.20	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
	5421 · Fire Vehicles Repairs/Maint.	\$ 5,162.27	\$ 3,863.49	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
	5422 · Fire Vehicles - Diesel	\$ 1,271.79	\$ 1,792.48	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
	5423 · Station Expense	\$ 120.00	\$ 570.28	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
	5427 · Truck Replacement Fund	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 27,000.00
	5433 · Testing/Maint.	\$ 4,843.33	\$ 4,727.22	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00
	5435 · Firefighters Stipend	\$ 5,089.39	\$ -	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,500.00
	5438 - Air Pack Replacement	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 17,000.00
	5439 - Deputy Chief's Stipend & FICA	\$ 1,614.75	\$ 2,153.00	\$ 2,155.00	\$ 2,155.00
	5440 - Repeater Radio Fund	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total 5400 · FIRE PROTECTION EXPENSE		\$ 105,180.18	\$ 60,860.13	\$ 123,330.00	\$ 142,830.00
YEAR OVER (LOSS)		\$ 20,881.01	\$ 12,660.97		

GENERAL BUDGET

		Actuals	Actuals	Budget	Proposed
		July '21 - June '22	July '22 - Jan '23	July '22 - June '23	July '23 - June '24
Income					
4300 · GENERAL FUND INCOME					
	43XX - Prior Year Over (Loss)	\$ 9,473.65	\$ 26,727.72		
	4301 · Fire District Tax Current	\$ 78,803.36	\$ 33,921.97	\$ 65,800.00	\$ 65,740.00
	4304 · Miscellaneous Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	4307 · Admin. Exp./Water Fund	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,750.00
	4308 · Admin. Expense/Sewer Fund	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,750.00
	4309 · Admin. Expense/Fire Prot. Fund	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 7,600.00	\$ 8,100.00
	4310 · Office Equip./Water Fund	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
	4311 · Office Equip./Sewer Fund	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
	4312 · Office Equip./Fire Prot Fund	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
	4315 · Inerest- Money Market	\$ 27.06	\$ 67.38	\$ -	\$ -
	4316 · Interest-Checking Account	\$ 17.41	\$ 11.59	\$ -	\$ -
	Total 4300 · GENERAL FUND INCOME	\$ 104,871.48	\$ 78,078.66	\$ 83,150.00	\$ 84,090.00
Expense					
5300 · GENERAL FUND EXPENSE					
	5301 · Treasurer's Salary & FICA	\$ 16,249.66	\$ 9,492.69	\$ 16,775.00	\$ 17,320.00
	5302 · Clerk's Salary & FICA	\$ 16,249.09	\$ 9,492.69	\$ 16,775.00	\$ 17,320.00
	5304 · Prudential Com. Stipend & FICA	\$ 3,498.63	\$ 1,749.31	\$ 3,650.00	\$ 3,650.00
	5308 · Attorney Fee's	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
	5310 · Insurance Expense	\$ 2,413.29	\$ 1,932.43	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00
	5312 · Miscellaneous	\$ 404.57	\$ 263.85	\$ 250.00	\$ 400.00
	5313 · Office Expense/Supplies/Maint.	\$ 4,255.10	\$ 3,851.45	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 5,200.00
	5315 · Plow Maint/Plowing/Mowing	\$ 3,305.00	\$ 956.98	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 4,200.00
	5316 · Rent Expense	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
	5318 · Street Lights	\$ 16,864.41	\$ 10,160.27	\$ 19,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
	5319 · Utilities/Phone & Fax	\$ 2,327.39	\$ 1,531.84	\$ 2,600.00	\$ 2,600.00
	5320 · VLCT	\$ 997.50	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
	5325 - Del. Tax Collectors Expenses	\$ 354.12	\$ 368.30	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
	5326 - Elected Officials Stipend	\$ 225.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
	5327 - Sidewalk Maintenance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Total 5300 · GENERAL FUND EXPENSE	\$ 73,143.76	\$ 43,799.81	\$ 78,150.00	\$ 79,090.00
General Fund Capital Transfers					
	5323 · Snowplow Replacement Fund	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
	INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 26,727.72			

WATER & SEWER BUDGET

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
	July '21-June '22	July '22-Jan '23	July '22-June '23	July '23-June '24
4600 · WATER/SEWER INCOME				
46XX-Prior year Carry Over (Loss)	\$ (40,900.44)	\$ (7,494.53)		
4601 · Water Rents	\$ 170,127.75	\$ 103,647.31	\$ 176,299.50	\$ 179,678.80
4602 · Sewer Rents	\$ 170,999.88	\$ 100,190.90	\$ 182,299.50	\$ 185,678.80
4603 · Water Bond	\$ 82,337.09	\$ 48,582.77	\$ 81,500.00	\$ 81,500.00
4604 · Penalties/Interest	\$ 5,982.82	\$ 2,629.03	\$ -	\$ -
4605 · Miscellaneous	\$ 1,980.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
Total 4600 · WATER & SEWER FUND INCOME	\$390,527.10	\$ 250,555.48	\$440,099.00	\$446,857.60
5600 - WATER/SEWER EXPENSE				
5601 · Administrative Expense	\$ 8,600.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,500.00
5606 · Insurance Expense	\$ 1,855.92	\$ 1,858.64	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
5607 · Licenses/Permits	\$ 3,313.85	\$ 1,006.60	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
5608 · Dues/Annual Fees	\$ 2,228.30	\$ 1,306.59	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,500.00
5609 · Office Equipment Expense	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
5611 · Hired Labor	\$ 7,131.75	\$ 10,337.68	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
5612 · Material and Supplies	\$ 16,330.37	\$ 22,780.24	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 24,000.00
5612A · Chemicals	\$ 4,481.52	\$ 5,959.64	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
5613 · Testing Fees	\$ 3,686.57	\$ 1,934.75	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00
5614 · Contracted Services	\$ 156,495.00	\$ 79,635.00	\$ 157,899.00	\$ 162,657.60
5615 · Utilities	\$ 51,140.44	\$ 24,228.77	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 48,000.00
5616 · Equipment Repairs/Maintenance	\$ 3,818.29	\$ 3,302.96	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
5617 · Plant Maint/Improvements	\$ 960.00	\$ 221.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
5618 · Sludge Handling	\$ 36,172.50	\$ 19,012.50	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 38,000.00
5619 · Systems Exp. (Manholes, etc.)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
5621 · Water Bond Payment	\$ 81,490.81	\$ 71,081.16	\$ 81,500.00	\$ 81,500.00
5622 · Penalties paid to DTC	\$ 4,753.81	\$ 1,858.26	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
5623 · Water Capital Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
5624 · Sewer Capital Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
5625 - 20 Year Evaluation Fund	\$ 7,862.50	\$ 4,468.26	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
5626 - Meter Upgrades	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 4,426.20	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00
Total 5600 · WATER & SEWER EXPENSE	\$ 398,021.63	\$ 262,918.25	\$ 440,099.00	\$ 446,857.60
YEAR OVER (LOSS)	\$ (7,494.53)			

Capital Fund Balances as of December 31, 2022

Water Capital Fund Balance:	\$ 79,318.64
Sewer Capital Fund Balance:	\$ 79,715.92
Fire Truck Replacement Fund:	\$ 152,844.04
Air Pack Replacement Fund:	\$ 18,000.00
Snowplow Replacement Fund:	\$ 20,401.15
Repeater Radio Fund:	\$ 5,000.00

**MINUTES OF THE WALLINGFORD FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1
Annual Meeting**

April 19, 2022

The moderator Dennis Stocker called the Annual Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Prudential Committee members present: Kandie Stocker, Bill Brooks, Kevin Vaughn and Marianne McClure the Clerk/Treasurer. There were nine (9) Fire District Residents, along with nine (9) visitors in attendance.

Moderator Dennis Stocker read the warning.

The legal voters of Fire District No. 1, Wallingford, Vermont are hereby warned to meet at the Wallingford Fire Station (17 Railroad Street) on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 7:00 pm for the Annual Fire District Meeting to act upon the following articles. Face masks are recommended for those who are not fully vaccinated for COVID-19.

Article 01. Will the District vote to approve and authorize the Prudential Committee to expend the specific amounts of monies to be appropriated for all necessary Water/Sewer Fund expenses and apportioned by the Prudential Committee for the several purposes provided as per the proposed 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget in the amount of \$440,099.00?

Anthony Petrossi made a motion that was seconded by Kyle Stocker to open Article 01 for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Dennis then asked if there were any questions.

Shane St. Claire asked the board where the money is coming from and if we were raising money through the meters. Shane said the Fire District tax was very reasonable but that the cost of water has gone up 288% since 2001. Shane stated that the contract from 2001 was not supposed to increase. Shane stated that the rates have gone up 4 times in the last year and asked why do they keep going up. Kandie stated that the expenses have gone up therefore they have to raise the rates to keep up with and meet the budget. Shane said families must be struggling. He said that the meters shouldn't run the budgets and that they should get another bond instead. Shane also stated the Fire District should get money from the Town to help with the expenses of the water and sewer system. He said the Selectboard should give the Fire District money. Bill Brooks stated that it has been over 20 years since that contract was done up and since then the rates would have to go up to keep up with the expenses. Dennis stated that Shane could petition the State to force a meeting with the Prudential Committee about the rates. Shane said the water meter should not fund the water system. Kandie said that the Fire District is a business, a

corporation, and that they have to raise the money from somewhere. She stated that they are not making a profit off of this. Shane asked again why they can't get another bond. Shane stated that on his tax bill from the Town there is a \$500 municipal charge that the Selectboard should increase to give the water and sewer more money instead of raising the rates. Bill corrected Shane and said that the \$500 municipal charge on the Town tax bill does NOT come to the Fire District. Bill said that the Fire District does not get any money from the Town. Kandie also told Shane that there is an article in the office that discussed the rates rising over the years and told him he could come to the office to grab a copy of it.

Anne Awad, who lives at Highland Estates, which has about 38 houses across the bridge and gets water from the Fire District, asked the board that when the Budget is approved aren't the rates already set at that time. Kandie explained that they are not set at that time for the fiscal year, but that the Fire District does have to meet the Budget so therefore they have to raise the rates throughout the fiscal year to meet the budget. Anne asked if the water and sewer were combined on the bill as Highland Estates only has water. Kandie said no, that they would only be charged for water and that it is based on their usage.

Shane stated that he felt more people would come to the annual meeting if they put something on the pamphlet about water and sewer as he thought it was just for the Fire Department.

Kandie stated that Shane and Anne could come to a regular Prudential Committee meeting to discuss any issues further.

Dennis asked if there were any more questions, hearing no questions, Dennis called for a motion to close discussion and vote. Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to close discussion and approve Article 01. The motion was approved (8-1).

Article 02. Will the District vote to approve and authorize the Prudential Committee to expend the specific amounts of monies to be appropriated for all necessary General Fund expenses and apportioned by the Prudential Committee for the several purposes provided as per the proposed 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget in the amount of \$83,150.00?

Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to open Article 02 for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Dennis then asked if there were any questions.

Shane asked where this money was coming from and if would affect the water and sewer rates. Kandie said no, this is the general budget and the money raised for this comes from the Fire District taxes on the water/sewer bill. Dennis asked if there were any more questions, hearing no questions, Dennis called for a motion to close discussion and vote.

Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to close discussion and approve Article 02. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Article 03. Will the District vote to approve and authorize the Prudential Committee to expend the specific amounts of monies to be appropriated for all necessary Fire Protection Fund expenses and apportioned by the Prudential Committee for the several purposes provided as per the proposed 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget in the amount of \$123,330.00?

Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to open Article 03 for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Dennis then asked if there were any questions.

Dennis asked if there were any questions, hearing no questions, Dennis called for a motion to close discussion and vote. Kyle made a motion that was seconded by Anthony to close discussion and approve Article 03. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Article 04. Will the Fire District vote to have all Fire District Taxes, Water Bond, Water/Sewer Rents payable quarterly to the Wallingford Fire District #1 when due?

Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to open Article 04 for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Dennis then asked if there were any questions.

Hearing no questions, Dennis called for a motion to close discussion and vote. Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to close discussion and approve Article 04. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Article 05. Will the Fire District authorize the Prudential Committee to borrow such monies as may be necessary to meet the operation expenses of the District?

Kyle made a motion that was seconded by Anthony to open Article 05 for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Dennis then asked if there were any questions.

Kandie stated that in the past 10 years that she has been on the Board they haven't had to borrow any money. Shane said they shouldn't be afraid to do another bond payment to pay for the pumps, etc. Kyle made a motion to allow Mark Barone to speak as he is Fire District #2, Anthony seconded it. Mark asked if the Town would save any money by hiring one guy to do the water and sewer instead of contracting it out to Simons and paying them \$153,500 a year. Bill stated that one guy would cost at least \$75,000 a year not including health insurance and overtime. Kandie stated that years ago when they had one guy, he got hurt and there was no one to run the plant and they had to pay someone

overtime costing them even more than what they are paying Simons. She said that Simons has a crew of 5-6 people and that they take care of everything.

Hearing no more questions, Dennis called for a motion to close discussion and vote. Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to close discussion and approve Article 05. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Article 06: To elect all Fire District Officers required by law.

Dennis asked for nominations for the 3-year term on the Prudential Committee that is currently held by Bill. Kandie nominated Bill; Kevin seconded the nomination. Dennis asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor. Hearing none Dennis called for a motion to close nominations and vote. Kyle made a motion that was seconded by Anthony to close the nominations and have the secretary cast one ballot in favor of Bill. Bill was elected to the 3-year term on the Prudential Committee.

Dennis asked if there were any nominations for Moderator for a 1-year term. Kyle nominated Dennis, seconded by Kevin. Dennis asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor. Hearing none Dennis called for a motion to close nominations and vote. Kevin made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to close the nominations and have the secretary cast one ballot in favor of Dennis. Dennis was elected to the 1-year term for Moderator.

Dennis asked for nominations for two 1-year terms as an Auditor for the Fire District. Kevin nominated Amy Grover for one of the positions. Kandie seconded it. Dennis asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor. Hearing none Dennis called for a motion to close nominations and vote. Kevin made a motion that was seconded by Kandie to close the nominations and have the secretary cast one ballot in favor of Amy. Amy was elected to the 1-year term for Auditor. Dennis asked for nominations for the second 1-year term for Auditor. Kevin nominated Chelsey LaRock, seconded by Kandie. Dennis asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor. Hearing none Dennis called for a motion to close nominations and vote. Kevin made a motion that was seconded by Kandie to close the nominations and have the secretary cast one ballot in favor of Chelsey. Chelsey was elected to the 1-year term for Auditor.

Dennis asked for nominations for Fire Chief 1-year term. Kyle nominated Michael Hughes; Dennis seconded it. Dennis asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor. Hearing none Dennis called for a motion to close nominations and vote. Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to close the nominations and have the secretary cast one ballot in favor of Michael. Michael was elected to the 1-year term for Fire Chief.

Dennis asked for nominations for Deputy Chief 1-year term. Kyle nominated John Thompson; Anthony seconded it. Dennis asked three times if there were any other

nominations from the floor. Hearing none Dennis called for a motion to close nominations and vote. Kyle made a motion that was seconded by Anthony to close the nominations and have the secretary cast one ballot in favor of John. John was elected to the 1-year term for Deputy Chief.

Dennis asked for nominations for Deputy Chief 1-year term. Kyle nominated Mark Barone; Anthony seconded it. Dennis asked three times if there were any other nominations from the floor. Hearing none Dennis called for a motion to close nominations and vote. Kyle made a motion that was seconded by Anthony to close the nominations and have the secretary cast one ballot in favor of Mark. Mark was elected to the 1-year term for Deputy Chief.

Article 07: Will the Fire District vote to approve the reports as submitted?

Kyle made a motion that was seconded by Anthony to open Article 07 for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Dennis then asked if there were any questions.

Hearing no questions, Dennis called for a motion to close discussion and vote. Kyle made a motion that was seconded by Anthony to close discussion and approve Article 07. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Article 08: To act on any legal and necessary business.

Anthony made a motion that was seconded by Kyle to open Article 08 for discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. Dennis then asked if anyone had any other business to address.

Hearing none, Dennis asked for a motion to adjourn. Bill made a motion that was seconded by Kandie to adjourn. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 7:46pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Approved: 05/04/2022

Marianne McClure
Clerk/Treasurer