

Wallingford Fire District #1
MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
April 15, 2026

Called to Order:

Marianne called the re-organization meeting to order at 6:00pm with Kevin Vaughn, Anthony L. Petrossi (Tony), Chelsey LaRock and Marianne McClure, the clerk/treasurer present. Tony nominated Kevin for Chair of the Board; Chelsey seconded it. With no further nominations, Kevin was put as the Chair of the Board. Marianne turned the meeting over to Kevin. Kevin called the regular meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Agenda Additions/Deletions:

None

Visitors:

Chris Hayes, Mark Barone, Anthony E. Petrossi

Approval for Minutes:

Tony made a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting on April 1, 2026, Chelsey seconded it. With no discussion the motion carried (3-0).

Approval for the Fire District Pay Order:

Tony made a motion to approve the pay orders as presented; Chelsey seconded it. With no discussion the motion carried (3-0).

Old Business:

None

New Business:

The board went over the monthly financials and signed off on them.

Marianne stated that she spoke with Lane Simon from Simon Operations. Lane told her that Chris Hayes and Aaron Johnson put in their notice and are leaving Simon Operations. Lane stated that they have no other licensed operators to run the Wallingford plant, therefore, the contract with Simon Operations will be terminated effective May 2, 2026.

Chris Hayes joined the meeting and has started his own water/sewer business called Water Treatment Professionals. Aaron Johnson will also be a part of his new business. Chris stated that if we went with them that everything they do now will be the same as it is now, the only thing that would change would be the company

and who we pay. His fee is \$14,668 per month. Simon Operations are currently \$15,579 per month. This will save \$911 per month, \$10,932 per year. Tony made a motion to hire Water Treatment Professionals effective May 2, 2026, Chelsey seconded it. With no further discussion the motion carried (3-0).

Chris stated that the cost to repair Depot Street is estimated at \$23,000, however, it could be more. He also stated that we may be able to file an insurance claim. Chris said that the insurance company may pay for the road being undermined by the water leak. Marianne said she would file the claim with the insurance company.

Marianne received a water/sewer application for a new property being built on Hillside Rd. Chris approved the new connection and Kevin signed the permit.

Chelsey had to leave the meeting early. She left at 6:45pm.

Mark Barone, the Fire Chief, joined the meeting with a proposal to purchase a used fire truck using the money that is in the Fire Truck Replacement Fund. The current balance in that fund is \$207,411.69. The proposal is as follows:

“As you are all aware, Wallingford Fire department’s primary attack engine is a 1992 (34 years old). NFPA 1900 recommends that primary fire engines be moved to reserve status after 15 years of service. The standard suggests retiring apparatus completely from service by 25 years due to safety, reliability, and technology improvements. These guidelines are often called the 15/25 rule. Putting a focus on safety and maintenance.

Although these are “recommendations” it should be what we strive to achieve.

It is our recommendation to purchase the used 2009 E-ONE Cyclone (17 years old) presented here for \$180,000. This will cut our primary Engines age to half of what we are currently running.

This will require us to sell Engine 3. We can potentially list it with the same organization we are purchasing from, closed bid or contact our E-ONE representative for his help selling it.

We propose taking the money from the sale of Engine 3 to outfit and in-service the rest of the new to Wallingford engine. Compartment organization, lettering and NFPA compliant lighting. Any remaining money shall be returned to the truck replacement fund. I suspect that it should cost around \$3,000 - \$5,000.

Anthony and Zach have offered to travel to pick up the new truck to save on the multi thousands we would spend to have it delivered. I propose the district reimburse one of them for mileage and a shared one night hotel.

We will need to have a Vermont temporary registration completed prior to them leaving and insurance placed on the vehicle. The registration can be completed online for a nominal fee.

Once the Purchase and sale is completed 100% it is our thoughts to sell Engine 4 as it really does not fit our current needs and purchase a heavy duty one-ton single rear wheel pickup and utility / forestry bed. The new engine will fill the role of Engine 4 while we are down a vehicle during this process. This pickup would be used in multiple situations, from motor vehicle accidents (Jaws of Life equipped), off-road situations, wildland fires and general supply / support.

With the sale of Engine 4, we could potentially pay for a completely outfitted pickup and to avoid any financing.

Finally, we would like to start working with truck manufacturers to design and price a dedicated Engine – Tanker that will carry at least 2,000 gallons of water and a minimum of 1,000 GPM pump. This process can take up to a year and be presented to the voters either by special meeting and vote, or during the 2027 annual meeting.

Respectfully,

Mark Barone

Wallingford Fire Dept. Chief'

One concern the board had was making sure that the truck would fit comfortably in the bays. Mark and Anthony both assured the board that it would. Tony made a motion to approve the purchase of the fire truck at \$180,000.00; Kevin seconded it. With no further discussion the motion carried (2-0).

Tony made a motion to approve the travel expenses, mileage and hotel room for one night; Kevin seconded it. With no discussion the motion carried (2-0).

Public Comments:

None

Other Business/Announcements:

There will only be one meeting in May as Marianne is unable to attend the meeting on the first Wednesday of May.

Executive Session:

None

Next Meeting:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 6:00pm in the Fire District office.

Adjournment:

Tony made a motion that the meeting adjourn, Kevin seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried (2-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Marianne McClure - Clerk/Treasurer

Date Approved: