Wallingford Fire District #1
MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
October 7, 2026

Called to Order:

Kevin called the meeting to order at 6:00pm with Anthony Petrossi (Tony), Chelsey LaRock, and Marianne McClure, the clerk/treasurer, present.

Agenda Additions/Deletions:

Marianne stated that Mark Barone from the Fire Department reached out to her and said that the ice machine was broken. He took it apart and found that the water pump was seized. He also said there was quite a bit of calcium caked inside of it. He would like to wait until Spring to get another one and add a filter to hopefully avoid the issue again. This is tabled until Spring.

Visitors:

None

Approval for Minutes:

Chelsey made a motion to approve the regular minutes from September 2, 2026, Tony 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:

Tony had Owen Seward visit the Lodge to look into heaters for the Lodge. This is tabled as he has not received the quote yet. Kevin also stated that they could look into heat pumps, however, they would also need an electrician to set up another breaker box.

Mark Barone from the Fire Department wrote the Prudential Committee the following regarding Engine 3 and Engine 4:

> "To the Members of the Prudential Committee,

I am writing to formally request authorization to surplus and sell our 2009 E-One mini pumper, currently designated as **Engine 4**. Following our previous procurement of **Engine 5**, the operational footprint of our department has shifted significantly. While Engine 4 remains fully in service, the capabilities brought online by Engine 5 have effectively made the mini pumper obsolete within our current deployment model, and we no

longer utilize it for active operations. To properly protect our district moving forward, we need to capitalize on this transition, sell Engine 4, and focus our search on upgrading to a full-sized engine configuration—specifically targeting an apparatus with a capacity of **either 1,000 or 2,000 gallons of water**.
Our justification for selling the vehicle and transitioning to a high-capacity apparatus is based on the following operational factors:

- **Substantial Suppression Capabilities:** Engine 4's limited onboard water tank size (280 gallons) and restricted supply hose capacity severely limit our initial attack capabilities. Transitioning to a full-sized engine with a 1,000 to 2,000-gallon water tank provides a massive operational upgrade, allowing for heavy, sustained fire suppression streams before a secondary water supply or mutual aid tanker shuttle needs to be established.
- **Positive Impact on Our ISO Rating:** Upgrading our apparatus capacity from the current 280 gallons to a 1,000 or 2,000-gallon tank will directly strengthen our position in future Insurance Services Office (ISO) evaluations. Increasing our initial-attack water capabilities on a single piece of equipment is a strategic move that helps secure and improve our department's ISO rating, which benefits the entire community.
- **Tactical Limitations on Scene:** A mini pumper restricts our operational versatility at major incidents. Moving to a traditional, full-sized heavy apparatus ensures that our primary responding fleet has the pumping capacity, tool layout, and dedicated water volume necessary to manage high-consequence risks independently.

We propose listing the 2009 E-One mini pumper (Engine 4) for sale utilizing an established emergency vehicle brokerage platform to maximize our market outreach. While our initial projections targeted an asking price of up to $200,000, more exhaustive market research and a review of past listings for comparable units indicate an adjusted expectation. Based on current market realities, we can realistically expect to receive **up to $115,000** from the sale. Because we do not utilize Engine 4 for our day-to-day operations, we can list and sell it immediately without impacting our current response readiness or coverage. Selling the unit now allows us to capture its remaining value and directly secure capital for our replacement fund before any further depreciation occurs.

Upon listing the mini pumper, our intent is to actively monitor the market over the next several months to identify a high-quality, pre-owned, full-sized engine within our 1,000 to 2,000-gallon parameter. Regarding our procurement options, the final decision naturally rests with the Committee on whether to pursue a lower-cost used unit that needs immediate overhaul work, such as the vehicle under consideration that requires a complete engine replacement.
While the lack of daily utilization means downtime during a rebuild would not create an operational coverage gap for us, I want to clearly state for the record that I am still not sold on this approach. The cost for that vehicle's replacement engine alone is estimated at **$77,510.65**. Even without the pressure of an immediate timeline, taking on a catastrophic mechanical repair right out of the gate introduces significant financial risks and unpredictable labor liabilities. While the final path forward is your decision, my recommendation is that we focus our search on a reliable, turnkey engine that is fully operational and ready to carry our target water volume alongside Engine 1 and Engine 5 from day one.
By replacing this underutilized mini pumper with a sound, capable engine to run alongside Engine 1 and Engine 5, we will significantly upgrade our structural fire response capabilities and ensure our fleet matches the actual risk profile of our community.
Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued support of our department."

Buying another Engine is tabled until Engines 3 and 4 have been sold. Tony made a motion to sell Engine 4 at the starting price of $150,000.00 and revisit it in a month if it hasn't sold by then. Kevin seconded it, Chelsey abstained. With no further discussion the motion carried (2-0).

For Engine 3, the board agreed to leave the selling price at $15,000.00 but to also have Anthony Petrossi list it for sale on the Facebook marketplace.

While revisiting the rebuilding/purchase of the spare pump, the board had a couple of questions for Marianne to ask Chris Hayes. They would like to know if this pump has been rebuilt before, how old the pump is and if they were to order a new one how long it would take to get. This is tabled until the next meeting.

New Business:

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

Public Comments:

None

Other Business/Announcements:

None

Executive Session:

Kevin made a motion to enter executive session to discuss a possible tax sale on Meacham Street. Tony seconded it. Entered executive session at 6:27pm. Kevin made a motion to exit executive session, Tony seconded it. Exited executive session at 6:45pm with Tony making a motion to approve attorney Kevin O'Toole to proceed with a demand letter for payment. Chelsey seconded it. With no further discussion the motion carried (3-0).

Next Meeting:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2026, at 6:00pm in the Fire District office.

Adjournment:

Tony made a motion that the meeting adjourn, Chelsey seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion carried (3-0). The meeting adjourned at 6:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Marianne McClure - Clerk/Treasurer Date Approved: 10/21/2026