

Great Barrington Fire District  
Minutes for Prudential Committee Open Meeting on September 17, 2024  
Great Barrington Water Department  
17 East Street Great Barrington MA 01230

**Board Members and Employees Present:**

Walter Atwood	Chairman – Prudential Committee
Kenneth Schumacher	Member – Prudential Committee
William Brinker	Member – Prudential Committee
Peter Marks	Superintendent
Cynthia Ullrich	District Clerk

**Guests in attendance:**

James Mercer	Housatonic Water Works
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The meeting was called to order at 4:35 P.M. by Prudential Committee Chairman, Walter Atwood.

**Citizen Speak Time:**

**Approve the Minutes of the Meeting of September 3, 2024:**

*WB made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 3, 2024 meeting. WF seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

**Superintendent's Report:**

PM reported the district fire hydrants are ready for winter. They have been pumped, plugged, greased and lubricated. The hydrant at 420 Stockbridge Road has been replaced (*the hydrant was damaged when a passing truck lost its rear tires and hit the hydrant*). Applications for a trench permit and a road obstruction permit have been filed for the Christian Hill / Forest Row project. Installation of the pipe will take place in 2-3 weeks. Berkshire Heights pump is back in operation.

**Financial Report:**

CU submitted Warrant #10 dated September 6, 2024 and Warrant #11 dated September 13, 2024.

**New Business:**

Public Meeting to Discuss Exploratory Wells Project on the Berkshire Natural Resources property on State Road will be held Tuesday, October 22, 2024 from 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. Auditors from Thomas Scanlon's office will be finishing up the 2024 audit on Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Project Notification Form pertaining to the Berkshire Natural Resources Property Exploration Wells and Environmental Justice Screening Form that was emailed to the board members was discussed.

JM asked if the building on Christian Hill Road is scheduled to go up next year.

PM asked about HWW's line coming out of the building that would need to be piped and capped so the floor could be poured. JM told the board that HWW won't have the funding for the interconnect approved by the town until 2026.

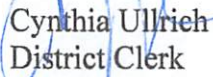
*WB made a motion to cover the expense of having the HWW line coming out of the building piped and capped and HWW would reimburse the district in 2026. KS seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.*

JM told the board that he is looking for grant opportunities. He stated that consolidating the fire district and HWW would open grant opportunities and "it's best for the community."  
PM asked JM "what's the magic price?" There was no response.

WA stated all board members would need to be available for any discussion pertaining to consolidating. JM stated he could have HWW engineers available to answer any questions.

Having concluded its business and having no petitions before the board, Mr. Atwood moved to adjourn the meeting, and the meeting was adjourned without objection at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Cynthia Ullrich  
District Clerk