

Great Barrington Fire District
Minutes for Prudential Committee Open Meeting on December 3, 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 Foster	Member – Prudential Committee
William Brinker	Member – Prudential Committee
Peter Marks	Superintendent
Cynthia Ullrich	District Clerk

Guests in attendance:
Jedidiah Shields

Western Mass Climbers Coalition

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M. by Prudential Committee Chairman, Walter Atwood,

Approve the Minutes of the Meeting of November 19, 2024:

WB made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2024 meeting. WF seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Superintendent's Report:

PM mentioned an issue he experienced with the contractors (*Morais*) working on the drainage on Christian Hill Road. After receiving a report that they (*Morais*) hit the water line, repairs were made, water was believed to be restored. After receiving calls of "no water" district employees exhausting many hours determining what the problem was. It was discovered that the contractors had shut water valves off prior to reporting they had hit the water line. A bill was issued to the town for the broken 1" compression curb valve and the time spent correcting the issue.

Citizen Speak Time:

JS told the board he had come upon a leaf litter fire on East Rock. Climbers were told due to the insurance liability rock climbers were not allowed to help extinguish the fire. JS collaborated with the GBFD directing them to trails. It was noted on the Climbers Coalition website and by word of mouth that there was a climbing ban on East Rock. JS stated that he believed the rock climbers trails stopped the fire from spreading due to the compacted leaf litter. JS also said "Rock climbers come from all over the land to climb the rock that the fire district owns. Climbers are waiting to hear when the ban will be lifted." WA expressed that permission was never granted and will not be granted to allow anyone to be on the fire district property at the East Rock location.

Financial Report:

CU submitted October 2024 & November 2024 receivables and cash journals. She told the board the reasons this round of the One Stop grants had been denied.

WF made a motion to accept the October & November receivables and cash journals as submitted. WB seconded the motion. Motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Old Business:

The board agreed to move forward with the bulk water filling station at the interconnect location on Christian Hill Road.

New Business:

The board reviewed Housatonic Interconnection Bidding & Construction Phase Services Amendment No.2 and the Green River Pump Station UV Disinfection USDA Funding Assistance Amendment No 1.

Submitted by Tighe & Bond.

The board agreed to table both of these until the December 17th meeting

CU will speak to legal counsel regarding 1905 state law pertaining to Housatonic Water

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 5:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia Ullrich
District Clerk