

BAKER HILL ROAD DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE
WILLIAM PRENDERGAST, CHAIR

20 Bridge Street, Lanesborough, MA
May 8, 2024 - 12 PM

Attending: William Prendergast (Chairman), John Goerlach, Hank Sayers, Linda Pruyne, Mark Siegars, Kristen Tool (Website), Lorna Gayle (Secretary)

Also attending: Gina Dario (Town Manager) Charles Durfee (DPW), Chief Rob Dirksen, Jen Weber (Emergency Services)

Meeting called to order: 12:03 PM

Public Comment: None forthcoming

Minutes

Minutes for April 10, 2024. Motion to approve moved by Mr. Sayers, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. All in favor.

Road Maintenance

Mr. Durfee reported that everything was good on the road in the past month.

A discussion was held regarding the recent work being done on Route 7 by the state. Mr. Prendergast was particularly concerned that the raised island had been removed and there has been no contact from the State regarding replacing it. He does not believe painting an 'island' will serve to prevent people from cutting the corner entering the connector road or entering Route 7. Mr. Siegars will call Mark Moore to get clarification.

Mr. Siegars also commented that it appeared to him that all the LED lights have been installed on the road. Mr. Durfee confirmed that the road is re-striped.

Legal Issues

Mr. Siegars requested that the Committee Members approve the warrant and schedule the Annual Meeting. The Committee selected June 20th, 12 pm. at Bridge Street.

Budget Review for FY25

Ms. Pruyne pointed out changes from the previous year. The police cruiser went up to \$32,500. Chief Dirksen indicated the price of a new cruiser is now \$100,000 with all the equipment necessary. The bottom line of the proposed budget is 925,703. leaving us with 61.11 tax rate.

Board Member Issues

Emergency Services/New Equipment.

Jen Weber requested \$100,000 to upgrade cardiac equipment. The request covers a Lucas device and a newer cardiac monitor. The equipment would help to offset the lack of hands on paramedics.

Mr. Goerlach felt this was more of a Town issue than a Baker Hill issue to be presented at Town Meeting. Mr. Siegars outlined a number of ways to approach getting these funds for Ms. Webber and suggested that a plan should be created so that BHRD is asked to match but not provide the entire funding amount making it easier for the BHRD to participate.

Mr. Siegars also suggested making it very clear to the Town that the emergency services is not part of the Fire Department which is a common misconception.

The Partridge Road Mural

Ms. Tool showed the Committee a mockup of the mural created by the students. The mural will be on the south side of the bridge toward the Mall. Ms. Tool was wondering about lighting it better. Mr. Siegars was interested in getting a security camera. There will be an art show at the school that the BHRD is invited too.

Public Safety Funding

A general discussion was held about public safety funding through grants and town monies.

Motion to Adjourn the meeting moved by Mr. Sayers, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. All in favor.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:05 PM

Future Meeting: June 12, 2024 at 12 PM. Water District Office, Bridge Street.