

Wareham Fire District

Prudential Committee Meeting Minutes 09/24/2026

Meeting held at 2550 Cranberry Highway, Wareham MA

Prudential Committee Members:

Dean Decas, Joyce Bacchiocchi, George Barrett, Jonathan Rogers, Brian Crocker

Also present: Clerk Treasurer Wendy Lemieux, Chief John Kelley

5:01 PM Meeting opened by Chair Dean Decas

- Meeting opened by Chair Dean Decas
- Motion to enter Executive Session, *return to open session* Joyce Bacchiocchi, Second Brian Crocker. Roll Call: Joyce Bacchiocchi - yes, George Barrett - yes, Jonathan Rogers - yes, Dean Decas - yes, Brian Crocker - yes. 5-0-0

5:33 PM Motion to exit Executive Session and return to Regular Session:

- Motion by Jonathan Rogers, Second by Brian Crocker. Roll Call vote: Jonathan Rogers - yes, Brian Crocker - yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi - yes, George Barrett - yes, Dean Decas - yes. 5-0-0

Return to Regular Session

Correspondence – 5:34 PM

- None

Approval of Bills and Purchase Orders – 5:34 PM

- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve payment to Wareham Media, \$500.00, Equipment and staff at Special District meeting. Second by Jonathan Rogers. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker - yes. 5-0-0

- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve payment to Peter Balzarini, \$100.00, service as Moderator at Special District Meeting. Second by Jonathan Rogers. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker - yes. 5-0-0
- Motion by Brian Crocker to approve payment to Lori Connor, \$20.00, service as Teller/ Checker at Special District Meeting. Second by George Barrett. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker - yes. 5-0-0

Minutes – Vote – 5:36 PM

08/27/26 Minutes

- Motion to approve by Jonathan Rogers, second by Brian Crocker. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker - yes. 5-0-0

09/10/26 Meeting Minutes

- Motion to approve by Jonathan Rogers, second by George Barrett. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker - yes. 5-0-0

Chief's Report: Chief John Kelley – 5:38 PM

- See Attached

Clerk Treasurer Report – Wendy Lemieux – 5:42 PM

- See Attached

Public Employees' Local Union 1249 Contract – updated contract effective 07/01/25-06/30/28 – Vote 5:44 PM

- Thank you to Laurie Uva for doing the final edits on the new document.
- Motion to approve and sign by Joyce Bacchiocchi, second by Brian Crocker. Dean Decas -yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker - yes. 5-0-0

Prudential Committee Reports – 5:45 PM

Vehicle Policy – possible vote

- Jonathan Rogers has reached out to the representatives of the 1249 Union and 2810 Union. He and Brian Crocker met with leadership of 1249, and there were no concerns.
- A meeting date will be set with 2810.
- Attorney Margaret Ishihara has recommended Joe McArdle of Marion as a tax professional who can advise on that aspect of the policy.
- It is important to note that we must clarify the approval process within the policy between department heads and the Prudential Committee.

Public Comment – 5:47 PM

***Statement by Chair:** District members are welcome to share comments on topics that are not listed on the meeting agenda during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Each speaker will be allotted up to two (2) minutes to address the Committee.*

Please note that, in accordance with standard procedure, the Prudential Committee will listen to comments during this time but will not respond or engage in discussion. This is not intended to be dismissive; rather, it ensures that all voices have an opportunity to be heard while maintaining compliance with the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law.

The Massachusetts Open Meeting Law prohibits Committee members from discussing matters that are not included on the posted agenda. By following this procedure, we help ensure that meetings remain open, fair, transparent, and legally compliant.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us maintain a respectful and productive meeting environment.

- None

Any business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of meeting – 5:48 PM

- None

Adjourn – 6:00 PM

- Motion to adjourn by Jonathan Rogers, second Brian Crocker. Dean Decas – yes, George Barrett – yes, Joyce Bacchiocchi – yes, Jonathan Rogers – yes, Brian Crocker – yes. 5-0-0.

Next scheduled meeting is October 8, 2026.

September 24, 2026

Open Session

Respectfully Submitted by Joyce Bacchiocchi, Clerk.

Chair *Ken Welch* Vote Date *10/18/25*

Clerk *Joyce Bacchiocchi* Approve *4*

Disapprove *0*

Abstain *0*

Document List:

Chief's Report 09/24/26

Clerk Treasurer Report 09/24/26

Proposed District Vehicle Policy

Meeting minutes, 08/27/26

Meeting minutes, 09/10/26

Public Employees' Local Union 1249 Updated contract effective 07/01/25-06/30/28

WAREHAM FIRE DISTRICT

TREASURERS REPORT

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE MEETING: September 24, 2026

SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING:

Special District Meeting took place on Monday, September 21st and all Articles were approved.

FISCAL YEAR END:

The Balance Sheet was submitted to the Division of Local Services, Wednesday, September 23rd.

Free Cash Certification will be forthcoming after DLS reviews the submissions. Free Cash estimate is in the \$700,000.00 range.

TAX RATE RECAP:

We will be entering the information into Gateway for the Division of Local Services to review in preparation for setting the FY27 Tax Rate.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Administrative Coordinator Job Posting has been extended to September 28th. To date we have 85 applicants

Chief's Report

September 24, 2026

Good afternoon,

Since our last meeting, several important matters have taken place within the organization.

Squad 1 is currently out of service and has been sent to the dealer for evaluation and repair of a pump issue.

The **Board of Engineers** met and voted to approve the hiring of the internal candidate for the position of **Administrative Coordinator**. An offer letter was sent to the candidate with a specified deadline for acceptance; however, the candidate ultimately declined the position. The position was subsequently reposted on the previously utilized platforms, as well as on the **Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA)** website. The application deadline is **September 28, 2026, at 3:00 P.M.**

Weekly meetings with **Motorola** regarding the radio project are continuing, and the project is progressing as planned. The equipment order is expected to be completed shortly, with the exception of the shelter and generator for the West Wareham water tank. The next phase of the project will involve the physical preparation, construction, and upgrading of the communication infrastructure necessary to safely and effectively house and support the new radio system.

On **September 18, 2026**, the new **Engine 1** arrived and was formally accepted, with final payment completed. Factory training was conducted on **September 20, 21, and 22**, and all shifts have now completed the required training. The engine is currently at the mechanic's shop awaiting the installation of equipment and mounting of necessary components before it is placed into service.

The **Station 2 roof project** is currently underway and is expected to be completed within the next week.

I would also like to recognize **Firefighter Dana Lofgren, Firefighter Devin Silva, and Firefighter Ben Macrae** for their life-saving performance on **September 13, 2026**, along with the members of the **Wareham Police Department and Wareham EMS**, during an emergency call on Tihonet Road.

Responders arrived to find a patient in full cardiac arrest, with the patient's wife performing CPR prior to the arrival of emergency crews. Fire and EMS personnel immediately took over CPR and continued resuscitative efforts. Through the rapid response, coordination, and outstanding performance of all the emergency responders, the patient was successfully revived and transported to Charlton Memorial Hospital conscious and awake upon arrival.

This positive outcome would not have been possible without the immediate actions, professionalism, teamwork, and commitment demonstrated by everyone involved. Their performance is a tremendous reflection of the dedication and training of our emergency response personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief John G. Kelley
Wareham Fire Department