# 2020

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

## of the

## **BOARD OF OFFICERS**

of

## **BRANDON FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1**

## **BRANDON, VERMONT**

Annual Meeting January 11, 2021 6:00 pm

1856-2020

## WARNING

The legal voters of the Brandon Fire District No. 1 are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Brandon American Legion at 550 Franklin Street in Brandon, Vermont on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. to act on the following business:

- I. To elect a moderator of the district?
- II. Shall the voters approve the draft revision of the Fire District by-laws? The full text of the proposed revision of the bylaws is available for viewing at <u>www.townofbrandon.com</u> or a copy can be requested by email to <u>brandonfdno1@myfairpoint.net</u>.
- III. To elect officers of the district for the ensuing year?
- III. To fix the compensation to be paid the district officers for the ensuing year?
- **IV.** Shall the voters approve total general fund expenditures of \$646,090.00?
- V. To act on the report of the Chief Engineer?
- VI. Shall the voters authorize the Prudential Committee to borrow money in anticipation of water rents, if necessary?
- VII. To do any other business that is proper to be done when met.

Dated at Brandon, Vermont this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December 2020

#### Seth R Clifford, Clerk Brandon Fire District No. 1

There will be an option to participate at the Annual Meeting via Zoom. Below is the link to the meeting:

 Option 1: Videoconference
 This option is available only if:

 You have a computer with a built-in or external camera and microphone (Zoom Software download required)

 Have a phone with a built-in camera (Zoom App download required) • Visit: <a href="https://zoom.us/j/86541089021">https://zoom.us/j/86541089021</a> (This will prompt the download if you do not have the software/app already installed)

 Meeting ID (86541089021)
 Option 2: Conference Call: To dial in for audio only:

 1. Dial: (929) 205 6099
 2. Follow instructions to enter Meeting ID (86541089021) then confirm by hitting pound.

 When prompted to enter participant ID, just hit pound (#) again to enter meeting

### **OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT**

#### Moderator

Clerk

#### **Prudential Committee**

Term Expires 2021 Term Expires 2022 Term Expires 2023

Treasurer

Auditors

#### Bernie Carr

Seth R Clifford

Michael Markowski Adelbert Cook Peter Smith

Seth R Clifford

Richard Baker John Moulton Vacant

**Raymond Counter** 

#### WATER DEPARTMENT

Water Superintendent

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Chief Deputy Chief Assistant Chief Thomas Kilpeck Roland Euber Vacant

### MEMBERS OF THE DUNMORE HOSE COMPANY

As of November 1, 2020

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer	Kyle Hutchins Dave Dushaney Courtney Lee Tracey Murray	Captain 1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant	Jordan Martin Roger Bougor Nicolas Audet
Steven Bilodeau	Scott Bertrand		Jesse Bilodeau
Peter Smith	Randy Disorda		Linwood Bovey
Robert Fales	Harry E Hunt		Harry L Hunt
Brian Kilpeck	Michael Jensen		Garret Trask
Cody Taylor	Dennis Reisenv		Kenneth Backus
Bradley Danforth	Ethan West		Jason Martin

### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

#### Brandon Fire District No.1 JANUARY 13, 2020

The Annual Meeting of the Brandon Fire District No.1 was held at the Brandon Fire Station at 61 Franklin St., Brandon, VT on Monday, January 13th, 2020, at 6:00 PM with 28 members present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Fire Chief Roman Wdowiak.

Del Cook thanked Tom Whittaker for his 24 years of service on the Prudential Board

Article I. The following officers were unanimously elected for the ensuing year:

Moderator -	Bernie Carr
Clerk & Treasurer -	Seth R. Clifford
Prudential Board -	Peter Smith (term to expire 2023)
Auditors -	Richard Baker and John Moulton

- Article II. Chief Wdowiak gave a summary of his written report and it was accepted unanimously.
- Article III. The following salaries for the District Officers were unanimously voted:
  - \$500.00 For Each Prudential Board Member
  - \$100.00 For The Treasurer
  - \$25.00 For Each Auditor
  - \$10.00 For The Moderator For Each Meeting
  - \$10.00 For The Clerk For Each Meeting
- Article IV. The voters unanimously approved total general fund expenditures of \$861,304.00, of which \$286,900.00 shall be raised by taxes and \$574,404.00 by non-tax revenues.
- Article V. The voters unanimously authorized the Prudential Committee to borrow money in anticipation of water rents, if necessary.
- Article VI.
- Article VII. After much discussion, both for and against, Articles VI and VII were tabled.
- Article VIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Seth R. Clifford, Clerk Brandon Fire District No. 1

WATER DEP	ARTMENT REVENUE		
	2020 BUDGET	ACTUAL	2021 PROPOSED
WATER RENTS	\$502,404.00	\$572,615.89	\$378,244.00
WATER RENT LATE CHARGES	\$8,000.00	\$8,323.38	\$6,000.00
INTEREST	\$0.00	\$42.60	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	\$10,000.00	\$76,501.33	\$0.00
TOTAL REVENUE - WATER	\$520,404.00	\$657,483.20	\$384,244.00
WATER DEP	ARTMENT EXPENSES		
	2020 BUDGET	EXPENDED	2021 PROPOSED
ADMINISTRATION - WATER DEPT			
OFFICERS SALARIES	\$980.00	\$960.00	\$2,400.00
FICA/MEDICARE EXPENSE	\$90.00	\$73.44	\$192.00
LEGAL FEES	\$1,000.00	\$2,021.40	\$1,000.00
PROFESSIONAL AUDIT	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
INSURANCE	\$3,200.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,652.00
ANNUAL REPORT	\$1,200.00	\$996.54	\$2,000.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION - WD	\$9,470.00	\$9,151.38	\$11,244.00
WATER DEPARTMENT	2020 BUDGET	<b>EXPENDED</b>	2021 PROPOSED
OPERATORS SALARIES	\$65,000.00	\$71,159.74	\$48,000.00
COLLECTORS SALARIES	\$10,000.00	\$9,672.06	\$5,000.00
HEALTH INSURANCE	\$25,000.00	\$22,254.13	\$18,750.00
FICA/MEDICARE EXPENSE	\$7,000.00	\$6,183.69	\$4,000.00
VMERS - RETIREMENT	\$5,500.00	\$4,280.79	\$3,300.00
TRAINING	\$500.00	\$12.00	\$250.00
WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$6,000.00	\$4,017.00	\$5,000.00
ENGINEERING	\$5,000.00	\$2,991.65	\$4,000.00
WATER TESTING	\$2,200.00	\$3,845.00	\$2,500.00
SUPPORT AGREEMENTS	\$1,000.00	\$734.27	\$1,000.00
WATER/SEWER SERVICES	\$500.00	\$298.84	\$375.00
LAWN CARE	\$3,000.00	\$1,497.50	\$1,200.00
WELL MAINTENANCE	\$5,000.00	\$20,162.00	\$5,000.00
METERING	\$8,000.00	\$29,166.51	\$10,000.00
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$1,800.00	\$666.04	\$1,000.00
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	\$1,000.00	\$180.00	\$1,000.00
EQUIPMENT RENTAL	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR	\$30,000.00	\$30,845.73	\$23,000.00
ROUTE 7 PROJECT	\$32,000.00	\$9,774.72	\$0.00
VERMONT STATE ASSESSMENT	\$7,000.00	\$6,449.87	\$5,250.00
INSURANCE	\$8,000.00	\$6,001.00	\$7,000.00
TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$3,200.00	\$3,177.75	\$2,500.00
POSTAGE PROFESSIONAL DUES	\$1,500.00 \$1,500.00	\$220.00 \$1,140.00	\$1,000.00 \$1,000.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$1,500.00	\$1,140.00	\$1,500.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$1,000.00	\$174.75	\$500.00
TOOLS/EQUIPMENT	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00
ELECTRICITY	\$42,000.00	\$41,486.08	\$28,000.00
PROPANE	\$5,000.00	\$10,798.77	\$6,000.00
GAS AND OIL	\$3,000.00	\$1,534.55	\$2,000.00
ROAD MATERIALS/PAVING	\$4,000.00	\$2,167.14	\$3,000.00
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$5,000.00	\$5,430.91	\$5,000.00
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
2007 BOND - DISTRIBUTION (30 YR)	\$133,848.00	\$132,636.61	\$129,982.00
2016 BOND - DISTRIBUTION (40 YR)	\$75,386.00	\$75,386.00	\$37,693.00
TOTAL - WATER DEPARTMENT	\$510,934.00	\$511,399.12	\$373,000.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION - WD	\$9,470.00	\$9,151.38	\$11,244.00
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES - WATER DEPT	\$520,404.00	\$520,550.50	\$384,244.00

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<u>h</u>	F <u>IRE DEPARTMENT REVENUE</u> 2020 BUDGET	ACTUAL	2021 PROPOSED
		<u></u>	<u></u>
DISTRICT FIRE TAX	\$286,900.00	\$286,622.50	\$215,175.00
OUTSIDE FIRES	\$44,000.00	\$49,100.00	\$33,000.00
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	\$10,000.00	\$2,662.00	\$13,671.00
TOTAL REVENUE - FIRE	\$340,900.00	\$338,384.50	\$261,846.00
Ŧ	TRE DEPARTMENT EXPENSES		
±	2020 BUDGET	EXPENDED	2021 PROPOSED
ADMINISTRATION - FIRE DEPT			
OFFICERS SALARIES	\$650.00	\$640.00	\$1,600.00
FICA/MEDICARE EXPENSE	\$50.00	\$48.96	\$128.00
LEGAL FEES	\$1,000.00	\$1,553.60	\$1,000.00
PROFESSIONAL AUDIT	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
INSURANCE	\$2,200.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,768.00
ANNUAL REPORT	\$700.00	\$664.37	\$1,400.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION - FD	\$6,600.00	\$6,306.93	\$7,896.00
	2020 BUDGET	EXPENDED	2021 PROPOSED
FIRE CHIEF STIPEND	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00	\$2,625.00
PAYROLL	\$43,000.00	\$37,573.00	\$33,000.00
FICA/MEDICARE EXPENSE	\$4,000.00	\$3,142.09	\$2,850.00
TRAINING	\$4,500.00	\$217.90	\$2,000.00
WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$9,000.00	\$4,127.32	\$7,000.00
SCBA TEST AND REPAIR	\$5,000.00	\$3,929.40	\$4,000.00
FIRE HOSE TESTING			\$2,000.00
MEDICAL	\$10,000.00	\$4,203.00	\$5,000.00
METER TEST AND REPAIR	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
WATER/SEWER SERVICES	\$800.00	\$629.41	\$600.00
SNOW REMOVAL	\$3,000.00	\$2,947.50	\$3,000.00
CUSTODIAL SERVICES	\$1,000.00	\$525.00	\$750.00
LAWN CARE	\$1,000.00	\$865.00	\$750.00
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	\$18,000.00	\$4,429.81	\$13,500.00
BUILDING MAINTENANCE	\$6,500.00	\$7,818.01	\$6,000.00
INSURANCE	\$15,000.00	\$11,522.00	\$14,000.00
TELEPHONE/INTERNET	\$2,800.00	\$2,619.29	\$2,100.00
DISPATCH	\$2,400.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,800.00
POSTAGE COMMUNICATION	\$100.00 \$6,000.00	\$113.33 \$5,100.00	\$75.00 \$4,500.00
PROFESSIONAL DUES	\$800.00	\$1,020.00	\$1,000.00
PROPESSIONAL DUES PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	\$18,000.00	\$6,495.38	\$13,500.00
OFFICE SUPPLIES	\$1,500.00	\$497.00	\$1,000.00
GENERAL SUPPLIES	\$3,500.00	\$4,225.54	\$2,625.00
TOOLS/EQUIPMENT	\$22,000.00	\$13,204.26	\$16,500.00
ELECTRICITY	\$3,400.00	\$3,683.00	\$3,400.00
PROPANE	\$12,000.00	\$9,679.32	\$12,000.00
GAS AND OIL	\$2,500.00	\$1,230.49	\$1,875.00
TRUCK PAYMENT	\$51,000.00	\$50,442.49	\$23,000.00
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	\$2,000.00	\$253.62	\$1,500.00
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT FUND	\$51,000.00	\$51,000.00	\$46,000.00
BUILDING REPAIR FUND	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$10,000.00
<b>CAPITAL FUND - EQUIPMENT</b>	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
DUNMORE HOSE COMPANY	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
TOTAL - FIRE DEPARTMENT	\$334,300.00	\$266,693.16	\$253,950.00
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION - FD	\$6,600.00	\$6,306.93	\$7,896.00
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES - FIRE DEPT	\$340,900.00	\$273,000.09	\$261,846.00

#### FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET

	<u>2020 BUDGET</u>	ACTUAL	2021 PROPOSED
TOTAL REVENUE - WATER DEPT	\$520,404.00	\$657,483.20	\$384,244.00
TOTAL REVENUE - FIRE DEPT	\$340,900.00	\$338,384.50	\$261,846.00
TOTAL FIRE DISTRICT REVENUE	\$861,304.00	\$995,867.70	\$646,090.00
	2020 BUDGET	EXPENDED	2021 PROPOSED
TOTAL EXPENSES - WATER DEPT	\$520,404.00	\$520,550.50	\$384,244.00
TOTAL EXPENSES - FIRE DEPT	\$340,900.00	\$273,000.09	\$261,846.00
TOTAL FIRE DISTRICT EXPENSES	\$861,304.00	\$793,550.59	\$646,090.00
GENEI	RAL FUND		
OPERATING RESERVE			
WATER DEPARTMENT FIRE DEPARTMENT			\$159,523.84 \$77,524.90
AS OF 10/31/20			\$237,048.74
TAN	<u>K FUND</u>		
CASH BALANCE - 11/01/19			\$256,592.25
REVENUE			
INTEREST		\$472.87	
RENTAL INCOME		\$75,484.15	
TOTAL REVENUE (FY 2019-20)		\$75,957.02	
TOTAL REVENUE (FT 2019-20)		\$13, <del>3</del> 31.02	
BALANCE BEFORE EXPENSES			\$332,549.27
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
METER REPLACEMENT HEADS		\$58,275.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES (FY 2019-20)		\$58,275.00	
CASH BALANCE - 10/31/20			\$274,274.27

#### FERN LAKE FUND

CASH BALANCE - 11/01/19		\$347,900.4
REVENUE		
INTEREST	\$711.05	
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT- FIRE DEPT	\$51,000.00	
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT- WATER DEPT	\$5,000.00	
CAPITAL REPLACEMENT - FIRE DEPT 3UILDING REPAIR FUND - FIRE DEPT	\$15,000.00 \$15,000.00	
GF LOAN - BOND PAYMENTS 2019-20	\$15,000.00 \$101,660.02	
	\$188,371.07	
ΤΟΤΑ	L REVENUE (FY 2019-20)	
BALANCE BEFORE EXPENSES		\$536,271.5
EXPENSES		
GF LOAN - BOND PAYMENTS 2019-20	\$99,655.96	
TOTA	\$99,655.96	
CASH BALANCE - 10/31/20	L EXPENSES (FY 2019-20)	\$436,615.5
DUE ACCOUNT		
WD - BOND ENGINEERING	\$38,025.00	
GF LOAN - BOND PAYMENTS 2020-21	\$99,655.96	
TOTAL DUE ACCOUNT	\$137,680.96	
FUND BALANCES AS OF 10/31/2020		

VEHICLE REPLACEMENT - FIRE DEPT	\$107,793.39
VEHICLE REPLACEMENT - WATER DEPT	\$43,083.75
WATER ALLOCATION FEES	\$3,653.99
BUILDING REPAIR - FIRE DEPT	\$15,000.00
CAPITAL REPLACEMENT - FIRE DEPT	\$51,012.79

TOTAL ASSETS - FERN LAKE FUND

\$574,296.50

## **REPORT OF THE WATER SUPERINTENDENT**

#### **Construction**

The Fire District installed a new 16" water main, fire hydrants and water services on Park Street as part of our joint project with the Town of Brandon. The new water main replaces the two older mains (1887 & 1908) that existed on the street and connects to the recently completed portion of the Segment 6 project.

#### <u>Planning</u>

Work is continuing on our capital plan to address replacement of the existing concrete water storage tank (constructed in 1908) and future replacement of existing older water mains (18 miles that are 110 years or older). The Fire District will be applying for an asset management grant in January to aid with the long-term planning.

#### Water Production

We produced about 122 million gallons of water from November 2019 through October 2020 compared to 134 million gallons in the previous year. The decrease in water production is attributed to recently completed water improvement projects and repair of leaks outside the project areas.

#### The Budget

As part of the proposed changes to the bylaws, we have created an 8-month budget this year which will cover from Nov 1, 2020-June 30,2021. There will be an additional budget created and voted on in May 2021 for the fiscal year July 1, 2021-June 30,2022.

We were over our projected revenues and were slightly over expenses for the 2019-20 budget year. Our biggest expense in the budget was for metering as we have had some issues with performance for the warranty period of battery life. The District was able to offset some of costs by securing grant money from USDA-RD and the remainder from the Tank Fund. The amount of delinquent water rents increased in 2019-20 to \$119,647.16. We will continue in our efforts to reduce that amount. The proposed budget for the water department will decrease for the 2020-2021 year due to adjustments in the fiscal year.

The Town and Fire District completed the transition to joint billing for the water and sewer departments this past year. We are now on a quarterly billing cycle and will continue to look for areas to improve customer service and efficiency. The rate structure for the next fiscal year will remain the same as follows:

Water Per Unit Rate - \$7.6250/quarterly/account for base charge

Water Consumption Charge - \$5.05/1000 gallons for actual water used Water Debt Service Charge - \$49/quarterly/ERU for 2007 & 2016 bond Meter Maintenance - \$3.75/quarterly/account for the costs of meter repair and replacement. Private Fire Protection Charge - \$12.50/quarterly/account with private sprinkler systems <u>only</u> Public Fire Protection Charge - \$6.25/quarterly/account for costs of maintenance of fire hydrants \*ERU – equal residential unit

The Prudential Committee and the Water Superintendent would like to thank all of its citizens for your support which allows us to continue to provide "Quality on Tap, Our Commitment, Our **Profession.**"

Respectfully Submitted, Raymond Counter Water Superintendent

#### **2020 REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF**

The Brandon Fire Department has had a challenging year. Not only the change in leadership, but mostly due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has caused a change in our daily operations and regular activities. Our ongoing training and preparation routine, along with emergency responses, has been modified to meet the current situation. Even with these obstacles, we continue to serve the three Towns that we protect, and we do so with pride.

Our emergency call volume has risen slightly from last year. Through the last fiscal year, the Brandon Fire Department responded to 149 calls for assistance totaling 1428 hours.

Motor Vehicle accidents	39
Structure Fires	4
Chimney Fires	4
Other building related emergencies	6
Alarm Activations	38
Rescues of Person or Animal	3
Assistance to EMS	21
Outdoor fires & other calls	17
Other Good intent & cancellations	14
Mutual Aid to another department	3

I would like to greatly thank all of the Firefighters on the department. With our current staffing of 27 firefighters and officers, they put in tremendous time and effort to protect this place we call home.

I also want to praise the Prudential Board and the Water Superintendent for their guidance and assistance, without which my duty as Fire Chief would be far more difficult than it is.

The Fire Department is always looking for new members. Please stop by the fire station to discuss becoming a member. We are normally here on the second and third Wednesdays of each month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. You also can contact me via email at <u>chief@dunmorehose.org</u> or by leaving a message on the non-emergency line 802-247-3400.

Respectfully submitted

Thomas Kilpeck, Fire Chief

#### **DELINQUENT WATER ACCOUNTS**

(as of 10/31/2020)

27,29,31 Church Street LLC Donald Alberico Kelly Atwood Nicholas Audet Brandi Backus Renee Barnes Kenneth Baron & Sara Engle Bates Properties of Brandon Gary & Sarah Bender Real & Jean Bergeron Christian Bernhard Glenn Bird Neil & Constance Bessette Monica Bixby Shannon Bohler Steven Borck Linwood & Cheryl Bovey Debra & Dan Boyce Joseph Bresette Becky Bruce Robert Bunnell Paul & Jean Bushee Jeffrey & Sarah Carrara Joanne Cobb James & Stacey Coburn Katie Cole Community Ventures, LLC Beverly Cram Nicole Danyow Ryan Delaney Anthony & Christine Denis Jeremy & Katelynn Disorda Michael & Theresa Driscoll Ashley Dunbar Edward Dwyer Steven & Theresa Eastman Christa Ernst Jammie & Christina Euber David Fifield

Robert Fisher Craig Frasier Jr Mark & Lisa Frasier Gregory & Wendy Frederick Ralph French Albert Gearwar Michael & Sadie Gerow Gregory Giles Benoni & Annie Griffin Chris Hahn William Hanfield Ian Heitmann Aimee Herrick Charles Holbrook Dennis & Paula Holman David & Leslie John Donna Johnson Leslie Johnson Robert Kerr Timothy Kerr Jeff & Dallas Ladd Patricia Lafavette Charles LaMoureux Christine & Maurice LaRock Allan Leavitt Michael & Mary Lovelette John & Valerie Lutz Troy & Tara Mackie Harold Mahoney Michael & Lisa Mahoney Sonja Mahoney Lucas & Beth Manchester Justin Maranville Raymond Marcoux Aleisha Martelle Jordan Martin Daniel Mazur Shawn McCafferty Robert & Victoria McCuen

Adam & Kelly McCullough Gabriel McGuigan Laurie Miner Damon Moseley Roy Murdock Michael & Nancie Neal Kevin & Sandie Odell James & Tammy Olsen Roberta Palshan Anthony & Kady Popp Jon & Lesa Pratt Linda Prescott Allen Pulsifer RD Schiller, LLC Doreen Raymond Gregory Reed Manuel Ricard Preston Ryder Bill & Cheryl Sanderson Gregory Sears Brenda Shackett Joseph & Janice Shackett Kathy Singh Kevin Smith Melissa Solomon Jennifer Stone Bobbi-Jo Piscopo Sundstrom Lisa Tatro Gloria Waite Wayne Warren Jennifer Wedge Richard & Karen Weldon Keith Wetmore Shirley Wheeler Barry & Pamela Whitney **Benjamin Williams** Melanie Williams **Timothy Williams** Jeremy Young & Sara Smith

TOTAL PAST DUE AS OF 10/31/2020: \$119,647.16

Brandon Fire District No. 1 58 Franklin Street Brandon, VT 05733

BULK RATE US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO. 9 BRANDON, VT