

**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS
FIRE DISTRICT
WWW.COMMFIREDISTRICT.COM**

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT
2025 ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING WARRANT**



1926



2025

ANNUAL ELECTION
Centerville Fire Station
Route 28, Centerville
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025
8:00 AM – 7:00 PM

ANNUAL MEETING
Centerville Fire Station
Route 28, Centerville
TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025
7:00 PM

To vote by Absentee Ballot please call: Prudential Committee Office 508-790-2395





Passing the “torch” as we say so long to retiring Chief Byron Eldridge after 40 years and welcome new Chief Patrick Hill and Deputy Chief Michael Rogers.



photos courtesy of Britton Crosby

**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT
DISTRICT OFFICERS
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

Carlton B. Crocker, Chairman

Term Expires 2026

David V. Lawler

Term Expires 2025

John A. Lacoste

Term Expires 2027

CLERK/TREASURER

Molly Stevens

ASST. CLERK/TREASURER

Cristin Van Buren

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Scott Crosby, Chairman

Term Expires 2025

Kevin Medeiros

Term Expires 2027

Peter Hansen

Term Expires 2026

WATER SUPERINTENDENT

Craig A. Crocker

ASST. WATER SUPERINTENDENT

Glenn Snell

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Mark Macallister, Chairman

Term Expires 2026

Edward P. Riley

Term Expires 2025

Douglas Brown

Term Expires 2027

FIRE CHIEF

Patrick R. Hill

DEPUTY CHIEF

Michael R. Rogers

INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Richard Sargent/ Thrive

MODERATOR

Charles Sabatt

Term Expires 2027



CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

REPORT OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

The Annual voting and District Meeting will be held at the Centerville station's second floor meeting hall. District voting will be held on Monday, May 19, 2025, from 8:00am-7:00pm. The Annual District meeting will be on the following night, May 20, 2025, at 7:00pm. Absentee voting ballots are available. Please call the Prudential Office at 508-790-2395 extension 2 to request an absentee ballot application. May 16, 2025, 5:00 p.m. is the deadline for ballots to be returned by mail to the Prudential Office.

The duties of the Prudential Committee include, but are not limited to, calling elections and Annual District Meetings, securing short and long-term borrowing for all District financing, overseeing fiscal expenditures, approving contracts for goods and services, negotiations for contractual labor agreements, and providing general direction and supervision of the Information Technology Department. The District currently employs a part-time in-house technician and an outside provider, Thrive. This combination has proven to be cost-effective with faster response times and overall improved service.

The very purpose of the C-O-MM Fire District is to service and protect the health, safety and property of the District's citizens, and to provide them with clean, flowing, potable water. This is accomplished only through the dedicated and professional services of the District's employees. Our labor force is our most important asset to ensure emergency response and assistance to the citizens and to ensure a safe and clean water supply. The Firefighters, Dispatchers, Civilians FD, and Water Department union employees are presently under contract.

We have seen continued savings in our monthly costs due to the high efficiency and low energy usage of LED lights. As always, we continue to advise the public to report malfunctioning streetlights. Please contact the Prudential Office at (508) 790-2375 extension 2 to report the outage with the pole number and the location.

We are planning to upgrade the existing fuel system at headquarters, currently utilized by C-O-MM Fire and Water fleets, as well as Cotuit Fire and Water Departments and West Barnstable Fire Department. Fuel price bids continue to be procured annually through the Barnstable County Collaborative, providing significant cost savings to the District and its partners.

In the midst of rising costs of delivery charges for natural gas and electricity, C-O-MM is committed to negotiating the lowest possible supply costs we are able. In addition, the District is

in its ninth year of a 20-year agreement with Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CVEC) to purchase net metering credits (NMC) for electricity supplied by Syncarpha Capital, a developer-provider of a ground mounted solar photovoltaic installation in Dartmouth, Massachusetts that provides NMC to the Water, Fire and Streetlights of the District. The 2024 dollar value breakdown is: Water Department \$182,791.31 Fire Department \$19,725.26, and Prudential Streetlights \$15,195.19, for a total of \$217,711.76 revenue collected for calendar 2024.

For the past 26 years the Fire Department has benefited from the proceeds of Ambulance billing. The total amount of income as of April 1, 2025 is \$31,871,517.74. In Fiscal Year 2026 those funds will offset the expenses of the ambulance/rescue service by \$1,809,302.39. Coastal Medical Billing, Inc. currently holds the contract for the District's ambulance billing and collection services.

In the current state of fiscal uncertainty, it has been difficult to budget for the 2026 fiscal period. There are budgeted items such as electric power, gasoline and diesel, heating fuels, the cost of good clean drinking water in future years that have ever evolving regulations and price increases. We have done our very best to give the District's tax-paying residents responsible, cost-effective budgets for fiscal year 2026. We hope to see you at Station One, Centerville for voting on May 19th, 2025 8:00am – 7:00pm and Annual District Meeting on May 20th, 2025 at 7:00pm.

The Prudential Committee wants to assure the District residents that we have unending confidence in the leadership abilities within all of our C-O-MM Departments. We are fortunate to have such dedicated individuals making sure that the District is able to carry out all of the services we are here to provide; committee members, firefighters, dispatchers, civilian employees, water office personnel and field technicians. And our many thanks to the Prudential Office staff, Clerk/Treasurer, Molly Stevens and Assistant Clerk/Treasurer, Cristin Van Buren.

Respectfully submitted,

THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE
Carlton B. Crocker, Chairman
John A. Lacoste
David V. Lawler

PRUDENTIAL OPERATIONS PERSONNEL

Molly Stevens, Clerk/Treasurer (January, 2023)
Cristin Van Buren, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer (February, 2024)

A special thanks to Richard Sargent for keeping the “wheels turning” for the District's Information Systems.

REPORT OF THE IT DEPARTMENT

The District's computer systems are a necessary and valuable resource utilized in all District departments and Fire/Rescue apparatus. The IT Department's mission is to provide the District with a communications infrastructure capable of handling current and future technological requirements. Given the critical utilization of technology in emergency responses, it is imperative the system be capable of providing accurate and timely information, in multiple environments, with redundant internet connections through secure routes.

The District oversees day-to-day IT operations utilizing a part-time employee who is knowledgeable with our specific software and hardware needs and by contracting with an outside vendor who maintains our servers, firewalls, backups, security and virus protection. This allows better overall management, security, service and control and provides the District computer system with 24-hour, state-of-the-art security, monitoring, and management. The District departments have 24/7 access to service and troubleshooting help through the in-house employee and IT Service company. Given the emergency nature of our technological needs, up to date, well-maintained, and quickly repaired IT infrastructure is imperative to providing our services.

The District has made and will continue to make upgrades and changes as needed to keep the system running efficiently and up to date. Currently our IT hardware is in good condition with updates and replacements placed into service as needed. Microsoft Office, RedNMX (Fire Department) and Logics (Treasurer and Water Department) continue as our main software suites.

In process or completed projects for FY 2025 include:

- Replacement of apparatus and administrative computer laptops.
- The Dispatch center upgrades are nearing completion, with a new Dispatch console, and upgraded radio and notification systems.
- We have upgraded our A/V systems to improve the use of the District Meeting Hall as well as the basement classroom. These areas are used by District employees for training and meetings along with public group use.
- We completed training in Cybersecurity, instructing employees in how to recognize cyber-attacks, spam, and phishing attacks to protect the District network.
- We are in the process of upgrading the SCADA system that monitors the Water department wells, pumping stations, and tanks through a grant received from the state.

THE CURRENT IT NETWORK CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:

- 46 workstations, 17 mobile computers, 9 tablets.
- 1 on-site server, 3 hosted servers, and 1 back-up server.
- 4 firewalls, one firewall to handle each facility, water dept. and 3 fire stations.
- Internet access with primary provider Comcast, cellular backup, and cellular data connections for mobile use.
- Microsoft Office 365.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Sargent, IT Director

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

I want to thank all of the employees of the C-O-MM Fire District for their cooperation with all of the changes we have implemented over the last year. I would like to echo that my commitment to ensuring the District remains fiscally sound as we move through a new set of economic challenges remains first and foremost. We are committed to maximizing returns on investments and saving for the future. We have made great strides in funding our OPEB trust fund over the past ten years, this is a commitment to aggressively fund this liability to provide for the costs of health insurance of our retirees in the future.

In addition, I recommended the creation of two special purpose stabilization funds in FY2025 as another set of tools to put funds aside for large upcoming expenses. We hope to minimize the need to borrow, therefore reducing the costs of both large fire apparatus purchases and capital building projects. The district authorized the purchase of three new fire trucks at the 2024 Annual District Meeting. The \$4.2 million dollar price tag would mean a considerable amount of interest if we had to borrow at the current rates. By appropriating money into the Fire Apparatus Stabilization Fund, we are earning interest on that money while the apparatus is being built. This will greatly reduce the costs of borrowing, if not eliminate them.

Our audit for Fiscal Year 2024 was completed by Roselli, Clark & Associates of Woburn, MA. Copies are available by request at the District office. The Governance Report provided by Roselli & Clark demonstrates that there were no scope limitations, no material weaknesses, and no GAAP departures. The firm also noted that there were no new accounting policies adopted, and that no transactions were entered into by the District for which there was a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. The letter also stated that all significant transactions were recorded in the proper period. In addition to the above statements, the audit firm stated that they did not encounter any difficulties while performing the audit, they did not have to report any misstatements to higher levels of management, nor did they have any disagreements with management during the audit.

The audit findings outline the District's responsibility to review and maintain appropriate levels in the allowance for abatements account (in cooperation with the Town of Barnstable Assessing Department). They also emphasized the need for a comprehensive set of internal policies and procedures, a task that we are working hard to implement. In addition, the audit firm suggested a review of time-off policies to ensure compliance, and we are addressing that concern with hopes to monitor time through the payroll system in the future. With the uptick in cybersecurity breaches, the auditors reminded us to stay vigilant in our network security endeavors. The auditors reiterated that the OPEB liability continue to be addressed; the current unfunded liability is about \$17.7 million or 72%, and while we are making progress, we must continue to evaluate this issue. Finally, the audit firm was encouraged by the efforts made to take advantage of increasing investment rates, and our more efficient investment strategy yielded \$314,000 more investment income over the previous year.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Stevens

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT
CENTERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

COMPOSITION OF TREASURER'S CASH
Year Ended June 30, 2024

Composition of cash including cash equivalents and term deposits
at end of year:

Petty Cash		\$ 750.00
Interest bearing deposits with rate of interest:		
Rockland Trust – Money Market	3.56%	2,693,369.21
Rockland Trust – Payroll Account	0.10%	2.09
Rockland Trust – Vendor Account	0.10%	608.22
MMDT – Capital Projects	Varies	18,801.64
MMDT Investments	Varies	3,385,169.36
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank – Cert. of Deposit	3.929%	37,696.17
Eastern Bank – Cert. of Deposit	5.0%	250,000.00
Eastern Bank– Money Market	4.6%	450,950.99
Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod – Cert. of Deposit	5.15%	572,964.07
Bristol County Savings Bank – Money Market	4.0%	406,570.86
Bartholomew & Co. – OPEB Trust	N/A	7,024,026.88
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank – Cert. of Deposit	4.879%	557,551.77
Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank – Money Market	4.3%	437,155.39
Leader Bank – Money Market	4.86%	1,311,867.66
Cooperative Bank of Cape Cod- Cert. of Deposit	5.15%	628,569.23
Rockland Trust-Checking	0.10%	41,538.23
Unibank – Checking	0.25%	19,777.13
Unibank-Money Market	4.86%	25,175.99
 Total Cash		 <u>\$ 17,862,544.89</u>

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

Balance Sheet – Government Funds

June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Ambulance Fund	Nonmajor Governmental	Total
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$5,352,130	\$1,902,391	\$228,763	\$7,483,284
Receivables:				
Property Taxes	329,740	0	0	329,740
Departmental and other	345,209	790,814	0	1,136,023
Intergovernmental	0	0	14,361	14,361
Total assets	<u>\$6,027,079</u>	<u>\$2,693,205</u>	<u>\$243,124</u>	<u>\$8,963,408</u>
 Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	 0	 0	 0	 0
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$6,027,079</u>	<u>\$2,693,205</u>	<u>\$243,124</u>	<u>\$8,963,408</u>
 <u>Liabilities</u>				
Warrants and accounts payable	\$176,835	\$0	\$2,297	\$179,132
Accrued payroll and withholdings	156,669	0	0	156,669
Tax Refunds Payable	189,224	0	0	189,224
Total liabilities	<u>522,728</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,297</u>	<u>525,025</u>
 <u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>				
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	410,787	0	0	410,787
Unavailable revenue - other	0	790,814	0	790,814
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>410,787</u>	<u>790,814</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,201,601</u>
 <u>Fund Balances</u>				
Restricted	0	1,902,391	203,130	2,105,521
Committed	800,088	0	37,697	837,785
Assigned	408,404	0	0	408,404
Unassigned	3,885,072	0	0	3,885,072
Total fund balances	<u>5,093,564</u>	<u>1,902,391</u>	<u>240,827</u>	<u>7,236,782</u>
 Total liabilities, deferred inflows of Resources and fund balances	 <u>\$6,027,079</u>	 <u>\$2,693,205</u>	 <u>\$243,124</u>	 <u>\$8,963,408</u>

Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Government Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Ambulance Fund</u>	<u>Non-major Governmental Funds</u>	<u>Total</u>
Revenues:				
Property taxes	14,925,612	-	-	14,925,612
Intergovernmental	205,896	-	33,271	239,167
Licenses and permits	20,530	-	-	20,530
Departmental and other revenue	5,967	1,564,542	-	1,570,509
Investment income	392,200	-	1,458	393,658
Other	<u>70,969</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>187,174</u>	<u>258,143</u>
Total Revenues	<u>15,621,174</u>	<u>1,564,542</u>	<u>221,903</u>	<u>17,407,619</u>
Expenditures:				
Current:				
Prudential Operations	5,538,886	-	-	5,538,886
Fire Operations	9,126,501	-	505,897	9,632,398
Information Systems	228,652	-	-	228,652
Debt service: Interest	<u>7,438</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,438</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>14,901,477</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>505,897</u>	<u>15,407,374</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>719,697</u>	<u>1,564,542</u>	<u>(283,994)</u>	<u>2,000,245</u>
Other financing sources (uses):				
Operating transfers in	1,503,871	-	171,000	1,674,871
Operating transfers out	<u>(171,000)</u>	<u>(1,503,871)</u>		<u>(1,674,871)</u>
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>1,332,871</u>	<u>(1,503,871)</u>	<u>171,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in fund balances	2,052,568	60,671	(112,994)	2,000,245
Fund balances, Beginning	<u>3,040,996</u>	<u>1,841,720</u>	<u>353,821</u>	<u>5,236,537</u>
Fund balances, Ending	<u>\$ 5,093,564</u>	<u>\$1,902,391</u>	<u>\$240,827</u>	<u>\$7,236,782</u>

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2024

Note D. Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2024 was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balances</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reductions</u>	<u>Ending Balances</u>
<u>Governmental activities</u>				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$384,746	-	-	\$384,746
Construction in progress	96,050	-	(96,050)	-
Total capital assets not being depreciated	480,796	-	(96,050)	384,746
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	11,282,358	-	-	11,282,358
Equipment, machinery and vehicles	1,206,189	99,058		1,305,247
Vehicles	5,607,622	542,826	-	6,150,448
Total capital assets being depreciated	18,096,169	641,884	-	18,738,053
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(6,424,752)	(282,071)	-	(6,706,823)
Equipment, machinery, and vehicles	(853,316)	(57,002)		(910,318)
Vehicles	(4,811,340)	(210,108)	-	(5,021,448)
Total accumulated depreciation	(12,089,408)	(549,181)	-	(12,638,589)
Capital assets being depreciated, net	6,006,761	92,703	-	6,099,464
Total governmental activities capital assets, net	\$6,487,557	\$92,703	(96,050)	\$6,484,210
<u>Business-type activities -water</u>				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land and land improvements	\$3,438,497	-	-	\$3,438,497
Construction in Progress	1,931,578	17,171	-	1,948,749
Total capital assets not being depreciated	5,370,075	17,171	-	5,387,246
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	1,472,861	-	-	1,472,861
Infrastructure	26,704,187	-	-	26,704,187
Machinery and equipment	527,895	-	-	527,895
Vehicles and equipment	500,420	-	-	500,420
Total capital assets being depreciated	29,205,363	-	-	29,205,363
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(1,005,523)	(39,193)	-	(1,044,716)
Infrastructure	(15,517,110)	(452,514)	-	(15,969,624)
Machinery and equipment	(521,095)	(6,800)	-	(527,895)
Vehicles and equipment	(388,534)	(35,222)	-	(423,756)
Total accumulated depreciation	(17,432,262)	(533,729)	-	(17,965,991)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	11,773,101	(533,729)	-	11,239,372
Water capital assets, net	\$ 17,143,176	\$ (516,558)	\$ -	\$ 16,626,618

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

Governmental Activities:

Business-Type Activities:

Fire Operations **\$549,181**
Total Government Activities **\$549,181**

Water Operations **\$533,729**
Total governmental activities **\$533,729**

Long-term debt

The annual requirements to amortize all general obligation bonds and loans outstanding as of June 30, 2024, including interest, are as follows:

Year Ending June 30	<u>Governmental Activities</u>			<u>Business-type Activities</u>		
	Principal	Interest	Total	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	0	0	0	126,977	17,612	144,589
2026	0	0	0	129,523	15,047	144,570
2027	0	0	0	132,119	12,431	144,550
2028	0	0	0	134,767	9,762	144,529
2029	0	0	0	137,469	7,040	144,509
2030-2031	0	0	0	283,260	5,693	288,953
Totals	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$944,115</u>	<u>\$67,585</u>	<u>\$1,011,700</u>

REPORT OF THE CLERK

May 21, 2024

**NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
AND
ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT**

Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District

Town of Barnstable

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In accordance with the foregoing Warrant, the ninety-eighth Annual District Meeting of the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District was held at the Centerville Fire Station Meeting Hall, 1875 Falmouth Road, Centerville, Massachusetts, on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Moderator Charles M. Sabatt called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., as no quorum was necessary, Molly Stevens, District Clerk, then read the call and return of the Warrant. With voters present and having a copy of the Warrant for this meeting, the reading of the individual Articles of the Warrant was omitted.

Acting Under:

ARTICLE #1. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to accept the Reports of the Prudential Committee, Information Systems, Fire Commissioners, and Water Commissioners all as printed in the Annual Report.

ARTICLE #2. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted, as amended, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$58.51 for unpaid bills for the prior fiscal year.

ARTICLE #3. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,149,890.99 and transfer and appropriate from the income of the Water Department \$1,003,830.01, for a total appropriation of 6,153,721.00 for the ordinary operating expenses of the Prudential Committee for Fiscal Year 2025, to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #4. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to appropriate from the income of the Water Department the sum of \$2,380,000.00, for the ordinary operating expenses of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2025.

ARTICLE #5. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,110,285.16, and transfer and appropriate from the income of the Ambulance Account the sum of \$1,570,459.62 for a total of \$9,680,744.78 for the ordinary operating expenses of the Fire Department for Fiscal Year 2025.

ARTICLE #6. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$255,700.00 for the ordinary operating expenses of the Information Systems Department for Fiscal Year 2025, to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #7. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of \$326,976.53, to pay maturing debt of the Fire District incurred by or for the Water Department, as it becomes due and payable during Fiscal Year 2025.

ARTICLE #8. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Water System Development Charges income the sum of \$42,058.46 to pay accruing interest on the debt of the Fire District incurred by or for the Water Department, for the payment of accruing interest on debt as it becomes due and payable during Fiscal Year 2025.

ARTICLE #9. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,785.00 to be paid, in accordance with M.G.L. c.41 Section 108B or other applicable law, to the Town of Barnstable as compensation for assessors, tax collectors and any certified collectors expenses incurred on behalf of the District, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #10. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Prudential Committee to either employ an outside auditor to audit the books and accounts of the District, including those of the Treasurer and Water Department; or to request an audit under the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 35, General Laws of Massachusetts, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024.

ARTICLE #11. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2025, as permitted by the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F, as amended.

ARTICLE #12. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to establish, as per M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 5b, a separate stabilization fund which shall be labeled the "FIRE APPARATUS STABILIZATION FUND" for the purpose of reserving such sums of money for future purchases of high cost fire department vehicles and equipment; and further, to transfer and appropriate \$1,000,000.00 from the general stabilization fund into the Fire Apparatus Stabilization Fund authorized by this article; and further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000.00 for the Fire Apparatus Stabilization Fund authorized by this article.

ARTICLE #13. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to establish, as per M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 5b, a separate stabilization fund which shall be labeled the "CAPITAL BUILDING STABILIZATION FUND" for future purchases of high-cost building maintenance and upgrades to the fire stations; and further, to transfer and appropriate \$200,000.00 from Free Cash into the Capital Building Stabilization Fund authorized by this article.

ARTICLE #14. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000,000.00 to deposit into the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund to apply to the unfunded liability (exclusive of the Water Department) as described in M.G.L. c. 32B section 20 with the approval of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #15. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of \$564,636.80 and re-appropriate from Article 19 from the May 17, 2023 District meeting the sum of \$50,000.00, making a total sum of \$614,636.80 for the labor and materials necessary for new water service installations, repairs to the water system, leak detection, tree/brush removal, meter replacements, hydrant maintenance, replacement of undersize and older piping, water main extensions, and other related upgrades within the system, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, with the approval of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #16. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of \$53,700.00 for the purchase of (1) van and related equipment, and if feasible, to sell or trade a 2016 Chevrolet van to offset the cost of such purchase, whichever is in the best interest of the District, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, with the approval of Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #17. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of \$80,500.00 for the purchase of (1) four wheel drive truck, and related equipment, and if feasible, to sell or trade a 2015 utility truck to offset the cost of such purchase, whichever is in the best interest of the District, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, with the approval of Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #18. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of **\$75,000.00** to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund to apply to the water department's portion of the unfunded liability as described in M.G.L. c. 32B section 20 with the approval of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #19. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and re-appropriate from Article 19 of the May 17, 2023 District meeting the remaining balance of \$45,636.45, to a reserve account said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, with the approval of Prudential Committee, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 40, section 5C.

ARTICLE #20. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 for the purchase of ten (10) comprehensive sets of bunker gear, said funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Fire Commissioners with approval of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #21. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum \$126,000.00 for the first phase of interior painting of COMM Fire Headquarters including the first and second floors.

ARTICLE #22. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000.00 for the purchase of a new Fire Prevention Vehicle. The purchase will be offset by netting any proceeds of a sale or trade of the existing vehicle(s), whichever is in the best interest of the district under the direction of the Fire Commissioners with the approval of the Prudential Committee.

ARTICLE #23. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000.00 for general on-going repairs to existing fire stations.

ARTICLE #24. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Free Cash the sum \$70,000.00 for the repair and replacement of the COMM Fire Boat 310 sponsors.

ARTICLE #25. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to raise and or appropriate the amount of \$130,000.00 to supplement the purchase price of two (2) ambulances previously approved at the 2022 and 2023 Annual Meetings which have increased due to factors beyond the control of COMM Fire.

ARTICLE #26. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to borrow and appropriate \$4,200,000.00 for the purchase of two (2) new fire pumping apparatuses and a new ladder apparatus.

ARTICLE #27. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to transfer and appropriate from Free Cash the amount of \$25,000.00 for the purchasing of 10 (ten) new Automatic External Defibrillators for deployment in COMM vehicles. If funded this money would be used to replace 10 (ten) automatic external defibrillators assigned to each fire department vehicle.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the Annual District Meeting at 7:44 p.m.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST: _____
Clerk/Treasurer, Molly Stevens
Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District

May 20, 2024

In accordance with the foregoing Warrant, the Annual Election of the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District was held at the Centerville Fire Station, 1875 Falmouth Road, Route 28, Centerville, Massachusetts on Monday, May 20, 2024 between 8:00 A.M. and 7:00 P.M.

The inhabitants of the Town of Barnstable, residing within the territory comprising the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District, qualified to vote in the District elections and affairs, did cast their votes, the total being **90, which being sorted and counted according to law, the results were found to be as follows:**

	PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE
JOHN LACOSTE	83
BLANKS & OTHERS	7

	WATER COMMISSIONER
KEVIN MEDEIROS	89
BLANKS & OTHERS	1

	FIRE COMMISSIONER
DOUGLAS BROWN	87
BLANK & OTHERS	3

	MODERATOR
CHARLES SABATT	81
BLANK 7 OTHERS	9

Elected and sworn in prior to the Annual Meeting of May 21, 2024.

Molly Stevens, Clerk
Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Mark Macallister (Chair) | Edward Riley | Doug Brown

FIRE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

Patrick R. Hill, Chief of Department
Michael R. Rogers, Deputy Chief
Natalia Kennedy, Admin | Sandra Mackey, Admin | Nicola Stacy, Admin
Richard Randall, Mechanic | Joe Desrosiers, Custodian
Pastor Judson Adams, Fire Chaplain

PERMANENT FIREFIGHTERS

Adams, Christopher Capt. (B) 1997	Looney, Michael (B) 2024
Aiguier, Brenden (B) 2020	Malone, Matthew Lt. (P) 2010
Anderson, Richard (P) 2014	McGonigle, John Lt. (P) 2014
Bedford, Jack (P) 2023	Medeiros, Justin (B) 2020
Booth, Timothy FPO (P) 2024	Miskiv, George Lt. (B) 2000
Carney, Michael Lt. (P) 2002	Mosher, Jessica (P) 2023
Carpenter, Daniel Lt. (P) 1999	Mullin, Scott (P) 2013
Coombs, Steven (P) 2013	Murphy, Odane (P) 2023
Corey, Abigale (B) 2023	O'Donnell, Anthony (B) 2020
Cox, Patrick (P) 2015	Osgood, Daniel Lt. (B) 2000
Davern, Jason Lt. EMSO (P) 1999	Perry, Michael (P) 2015
DeGraan, Thomas (P) 2005	Riley, Charles (B) 2007
DePippo, Matthew (P) 2021	Rogers, Christopher Lt. (B) 2009
DiPilato, Ryan (P) 2021	Sabatinelli, Eric Capt. (A) 1999
English, John (P) 2014	Sahl, Richard (B) 2001
Ferola, David (P) 1999	Sassone, Louis Lt. (P) 2004
Gelinas, David (B) 2005	Scott, Ryan Lt. (P) 2017
Goodearl, Thomas Capt. (P) 1998	Silva, Robert (P) 2020
Green, John (B) 2021	Smith, Bradley Lt. (P) 2011
Hammond, Zachery (B) 2020	Sparrow, Paul (P) 2022
Hunter, Zachary Lt. (P) 2010	Stacy, Benjamin (B) 2020
Karter, Seth (P) 2021	Swartz, Eric (P) 2020
Koretski, Christopher (B) 2020	Travers, Adam (P) 2015
Laffey, Tucker (A) 2020	Travis, Jason Lt. (P) 2014
Lehane, Shawn FPO (B) 1999	White, Casey (B) 2023

Dispatchers

Brouillette, Amy 2016	Crosby, Britton 2024 (part-time)
Monroe, William (B) 2000	Gifford, Jeffrey 2016 (part-time)
Perkins, Julie (B) 2021	Mills, Matthew 2023 (part-time)
Pierce, Richard 2011	Whittaker, Kristi 2024 (part-time)

*B-EMT Basic, A-EMT Advanced, P-EMT-Paramedic, EMSO-EMS Officer FPO-Fire Prevention Officer

REPORT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF'S MESSAGE

It is truly an honor to introduce myself as the newly appointed Fire Chief of the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Department. This department has been my home for the past 18 years, but my connection to this community runs far deeper. I grew up just across the street from our headquarters, attended school in this district, and have always felt a profound sense of belonging here.

Serving the community that shaped me, that gave so much to my family and me, is one of the greatest privileges of my life. Wearing this uniform fills me with immense pride, and as I step into this new role, I do so with deep gratitude, unwavering commitment, and a profound respect for the people and traditions that make this department truly special. With your support, I look forward to leading this department with integrity, dedication, and heart in the years ahead.

The following report not only highlights the significant events and achievements of the past year but also provides a roadmap for our future goals and initiatives. Our mission is simple yet vital: to save lives, protect property, and create a safer community through risk reduction efforts. We take great pride in serving this community, and we are honored to be recognized as one of the top fire departments in the Commonwealth. On behalf of our Fire Commissioners and the dedicated men and women of the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Department, I sincerely thank you for your continued support of our department and its mission.

Patrick R. Hill
Chief of Department

OPERATIONS

Established in 1926, the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire Department proudly serves the residents, workers, and visitors of our three villages. We provide all-hazards emergency response, including fire suppression, emergency medical services, water and dive rescue, and community risk reduction efforts.

In 2024, the C-O-MM Fire Department responded to 5,301 emergencies, including 3,545 EMS calls and 1,756 fire and rescue incidents, averaging nearly 15 calls per day. As detailed later in this report under “Dispatch FY25”, our call volume continues to rise alongside our growing community, reinforcing the increasing demand for our services.

EMS REPORT FY25

The C-O-MM Fire Department’s Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division remains committed to providing exceptional care to both residents and visitors of the District. Our EMS team is composed of highly trained professionals, including 21 EMT-Basics, 2 EMT-Advanced responders, and 30 EMT-Paramedics, operating across our three fire stations.

Currently, we utilize four International/Horton Class 1 ambulances and one Advanced Life Support (ALS)-equipped fire engine. To enhance our capabilities, we have two new Ford F-550 ALS ambulances on order to replace aging units. However, like many sectors, we have encountered delays due to prolonged backorders of ambulance chassis. We anticipate delivery of these new units by July 2025.

In 2024, we responded to 3,545 EMS incidents, with an average response time of five minutes or less. The majority of these calls required Advanced Life Support (ALS) care. Call distribution by location was 49.9% in Centerville, 32.1% in Marstons Mills, and 15.5% in Osterville, with the remainder involving mutual aid to neighboring communities. We transported 2,585 patients to Cape Cod Hospital, with additional transports to Falmouth and Boston-area hospitals.

Our busiest day of the week was Tuesday, and September recorded the highest call volume, followed by June and August. The most common medical emergencies include falls, traffic accidents, difficulty breathing, and chest pain. In the field, our paramedics performed over 2,000 IV starts and conducted more than 2,100 EKGs.

To ensure excellence in patient care, our paramedics and EMTs undergo continuous training to maintain the highest standards of treatment and response. Additionally, we have implemented a comprehensive Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance (QI/QA) program to evaluate and enhance our services.

On behalf of the entire C-O-MM EMS team, thank you for your continued support. We remain ready and committed to serving you. We welcome your feedback and encourage you to share any thoughts or experiences regarding our EMS services. Please feel free to contact me at JDavern@commfiredistrict.com.

Lt. Jason Davern
EMS Officer

FIRE PREVENTION REPORT FY25

Our Fire Prevention Division is dedicated to the 3 E's of Fire Prevention: Education, Enforcement, and Engineering. We conduct annual business inspections for all commercial properties within the district and oversee residential resale/transfer inspections in accordance with M.G.L. c.148 § 26F. Additionally, we work closely with the Town of Barnstable Building Department, issuing permits for various job-related tasks.

Fire prevention education remains a top priority. We provide early fire safety education to elementary school students and offer a robust "Senior Safe" program tailored to our senior residents.

Established in 2023, our Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Team continues to expand in both membership and community outreach. With a primary focus on our two most vulnerable populations, children and the elderly, the team has grown to 20 active members. These members conduct Senior Safe home visits, fire safety education in schools and daycares, and community-wide fire safety presentations. CRR Team members also participate in various community events, including parades, firefighter story time at local libraries, and Senior Safety Day at the Barnstable Adult Community Center. Moving forward, we aim to broaden our resources by incorporating programs such as car seat installation assistance, Stop the Bleed training, and CPR/AED instructional courses.

INSPECTIONS AND PERMITTING

In 2024, our Fire Prevention Division saw a slight decrease in the number of inspections from the previous year. The most common types of inspections were resale/transfer of existing homes, as well as new construction, additions, and renovations. The housing market remained unpredictable throughout the year. Fire alarm permitting for new homes, additions and renovations was also down -7%. Commercial construction was steady in 2024 but continues to be a small amount of the overall construction within the district. Most of the commercial projects in the district continue to be tear-down rebuild or renovations due to the very limited amount of commercially zoned open land available. Business inspections also accounted for a large part of our inspection totals, along with some larger scale events such as “Best Buddies” at Craigville Beach, village strolls & events, firework displays, road races & triathlon, and large-scale private functions.

Total Inspections/Events in 2024: 1,338
(28% decrease from 2023)

Total Permits Issued in 2024: 742
(3% increase from 2023)

Senior Safe/Community Risk Reduction Program

2024 marked another successful year of “Senior Safe” program within our community. The program provides home safety visits for any district resident 65 years or older. The program consists of testing life safety devices, installing smoke and CO protection, changing batteries, installing lockboxes, and many other life safety and preventive measures. Each year our department receives grant funding from the state to help fund the program, and these funds originate from the state’s tobacco tax; the remainder of the program is budgeted from our own department. We have built a strong relationship with the local chapter of the American Red Cross, who supplies us with battery operated smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. These alarms are primarily for the senior safe program and are installed for residents in need.

We continue to receive tremendous feedback regarding the program and if you, or a loved one, may be interested please contact our Fire Prevention Office at (508) 790-2375 ext. 1, or email fireprevention@commfiredistrict.com.

Senior Safe Totals for 2024:

- *Seniors Reached:* 300
- *Home Visits:* 240
- *Smoke Alarms Installed:* 29
- *CO Alarms Installed:* 46
- *ADA Devices:* 1
- *Lockbox Installs:* 32
- *House Numbers Installed:* 0
- *Batteries Replaced:* 1,101

Educational Programs

Our Jr. Firefighter Program consists of monthly visits to 1st and 2nd graders at both Centerville and West Villages Elementary Schools. Running throughout the entire school year, the program covers essential fire safety topics such as smoke and CO alarms, Exit Drills in the Home (EDITH), ice and cold weather emergencies, and concludes with a "Touch-a-Truck" presentation. More importantly, this program serves as an early introduction to the fire service, allowing us to engage with children at a young, impressionable age.

Additionally, at the beginning of each school year, we visit all local daycares and preschools to provide a "Touch-a-Truck" experience, along with "Firefighter Storytime," where we read firefighting-themed books to the children, fostering early engagement in fire safety.

In Closing

A significant portion of fire service work is rooted in prevention and education. As we move into a new year, our focus remains on customer service and providing preventive education to those who need it most. At C-O-MM Fire, we deeply value the relationships we share with the public and are always willing to assist in any way possible.

For inquiries related to fire prevention or general fire safety, please contact our Fire Prevention Office during normal business hours or visit us online at www.commfiredistrict.com.

- Monday–Thursday: 8:00-4:30
- Friday: 8:00-4:00

Shawn Lehane
Senior Fire Prevention Officer

DIVE TEAM REPORT FY25

C-O-MM Fire Department Underwater Search and Recovery Team

Established in 1986, the C-O-MM Fire Department Underwater Search and Recovery Team is the oldest continually operating public safety dive unit in Barnstable County. The team currently consists of 16 department members, including diver/tenders and four trained support tenders. They train year-round, in all weather conditions, including sub-ice operations, at various water bodies within the District and surrounding areas.

The team utilizes fully encapsulated diving systems, including full-face masks and dry suits, to protect against cold exposure and hazardous materials, such as body fluids and fuel. Most diving operations take place in low- to no-visibility conditions due to the mud and silt commonly found in lakes, ponds, bays, and rivers. Tenders guide divers using wireless communication systems and tether-based line pull signals to direct search patterns.

The unit is activated for missing swimmers, ice rescues, and boating accidents involving people in the water. Over the years, the team has performed numerous victim recoveries resulting from drownings, boating accidents, jumping incidents, and sunken vessel entrapments.

For over a decade, the C-O-MM and Hyannis Fire Departments have operated as a joint unit, protecting residents of both districts in close coordination with the Barnstable Harbormaster's Office

and Barnstable Police Department. Additionally, the C-O-MM and Hyannis teams work as part of the Barnstable County Dive Team for both training and emergency response.

Team Members:

Divers

Capt. C. Adams (Team Leader/Divemaster)	FF. P. Cox
Lt. J. McGonigle	FF. M. DePippo
Lt. M. Miskiv	FF. R. DiPilato
Lt. L. Sassone	FF. Z. Hammond
FF. J. Bedford	

Tenders

FF. T. DeGraan	FF. J. Mosher
FF. A. Corey	FF. P. Sparrow
FF. J. Green	FF. E. Swartz
FF. S. Karter	

DISPATCH REPORT FY25

The C-O-MM Fire District ended 2024 with 5,301 dispatched calls for emergency services, a decrease of 124 calls compared to 2023, which set an all-time record for the District. Historically, call volume has increased by approximately 1,000 calls per decade.

Call Volume Over the Past Five Years:

- **2024:** 5,301
- **2023:** 5,425
- **2022:** 5,134
- **2021:** 5,047
- **2020:** 4,619

For historical context:

- **2000:** 3,275
- **1989:** 2,019
- **1980:** 1,669

C-O-MM also provides dispatch services for the Cotuit Fire District, handling 1,059 calls in 2024, setting a new record for emergency responses in that district.

Of the 5,301 calls handled by C-O-MM personnel and apparatus in 2024:

- 67% were EMS-related responses
- 18% were fire and alarm responses
- 11% were investigations, service calls, marine responses, and other miscellaneous incidents

- 4% were fire prevention Senior Safe visits

In 2024, the C-O-MM Dispatch Center processed a total of 6,360 calls for both C-O-MM and Cotuit Fire Departments.

- 58% of these calls were received via 911
- 22% came through business and dedicated alarm company lines
- 20% were transferred from Barnstable Police and other sources

C-O-MM Communications Center

The Communications Center monitors all buildings and entrances via video surveillance and serves as a public access point for those conducting business with the District. It is staffed 24/7 by four full-time dispatchers, all certified as Telecommunicators and Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMD) by the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO). Additionally, there are four part-time dispatchers available to provide coverage as needed for vacations and time off.

C-O-MM Fire operates as a Secondary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). The Primary PSAP for the Town of Barnstable is at the Barnstable Police Department, which transfers fire and rescue-related calls to the appropriate department. Residents are reminded to always dial 911 when reporting an emergency, whether from a cell phone or landline, as 911 calls are automatically tracked for location, while business line calls are not.

Additional Responsibilities

The Dispatch Center also manages the Open Burning Program for district residents, which runs from January 15 to May 1 by state law. Each day during the season, a status update is posted on the C-O-MM Fire District website, indicating whether burning is allowed based on conditions. Residents can also check burning status by calling the Burning Line at 508-771-2089 or 508-771-2471.

Additionally, the Dispatch Center serves as the off-hours answering point and dispatch service for the C-O-MM Water Department. It is also the only Town of Barnstable collection site for the Barnstable County Sharps Collection Program. Residents can drop off needles in approved sealed containers, which are available free of charge for Barnstable County residents at the C-O-MM Dispatch window.

For more information, visit the C-O-MM Fire District website at www.commfiredistrict.com.

TRAINING REPORT FY25

To ensure the highest quality service, the C-O-MM Fire Department maintains a rigorous and evolving training division designed to prepare personnel for a wide range of emergency situations. The training division focuses on state-mandated continuing education, the latest advancements in fire and emergency medical services training, and hands-on practical skills and operational procedures.

The training division follows an annual master training calendar, which aligns with seasonal training requirements. This includes building and school walkthroughs, ice and open water rescue, wildland fire response, and marine operations. A significant portion of training takes place at fire stations while firefighters and company officers are on duty. These sessions cover

pumping and aerial ladder operations, search and rescue drills, EMS skills, hazardous materials response, and C-O-MM Fire Department policy and procedure reviews.

In January and February, C-O-MM personnel had the unique opportunity to conduct hands-on training in two separate acquired structures (buildings scheduled for demolition). With permission from the property owners, C-O-MM Fire utilized these structures to practice firefighting skills in a controlled, non-live-fire environment dedicated to learning. Acquired structure training is one of the most valuable methods for practicing essential fireground operations and tactics. The training covered water supply operations, nozzle and fire hose advancement, fire suppression techniques, search and rescue procedures, incident command, and dispatch coordination.

HONOR GUARD REPORT FY25

The C-O-MM Fire Honor Guard continues to thrive! We currently have 10 active members made up of retirees and active members of C-O-MM Fire. We are also in the process of onboarding 2 more active members. This year we regretfully accepted the resignation of retired Lieutenant Gordon Williams who has taken an “about face” from his honor guard role. We thank him for his time and contributions to our team. The honor guard has continued to enjoy the support of the C-O-MM Fire Administration with Chiefs Winn, Eldridge, and Hill. Our financial support has been constant from the C-O-MM Firefighters Association and C-O-MM Firefighters Local 2346. The team has created and designed a new logo for our use to include a new shoulder patch for all uniforms and logoed apparel for our team members. We also have replaced our aging presentation axes, flag bases, flag holders, and added a red C-O-MM Fire Department flag to the cache along with the Local 2346 flag that we carry in formation.

The team has been honored to have been asked to assist in several games, ceremonies, and occasions throughout the Commonwealth this past year. We presented the colors at the Boston Bruins game in the TD Garden in Boston, at Fenway Park for the Red Sox/Yankees baseball game, and were invited to an unfortunately rained out Cotuit Kettleers vs. Hyannis Harbor Hawks Public Safety game. We also honored those who have passed. We assisted with the funeral of retired call firefighter Frank Green and the line of duty death of Brockton Firefighter Jeffrey Albanese. Closer to home we have been present at the 9/11 memorial, annual recognition night, and two change of command ceremonies. We continue to enjoy a great working relationship with the Hyannis Fire Honor Guard team and Massachusetts State Police Honor Guard with whom we have continued to train and serve alongside of.

We as a team believe we contribute greatly to the “pride” of C-O-MM Fire and to our community. We look forward to continuing to grow our membership and our schedule of events. The support of the district, administration, staff, association, locals, and community are greatly appreciated. We will continue marching to help make C-O-MM Fire the “tip of the spear” agency that we are.

On behalf of our team, thank you.

FF. Chris Koretski
Honor Guard Coordinator

C-O-MM Fire Honor Guard Roster:

Capt. S. Greene (Retired)	FF. D. Ferola
Lt. J. Davern	FF. T. Laffey
Sr. FPO M. Grossman (Retired)	FF. Z. Hammond
FPO S. Lehane	FF. C. Koretski (Team Leader)
FF. T. Long (Retired)	

PERSONNEL FY25

This past year, C-O-MM Fire bid farewell to longtime member Chief Byron Eldridge. With 40 years of dedicated service to C-O-MM Fire, and 48 years in total, Chief Eldridge played a pivotal role in shaping the department into what it is today. Having served the ranks of Firefighter, Senior Private, Lieutenant, Captain, Deputy Chief, and ultimately Chief; his leadership, guidance, and institutional knowledge will be greatly missed. We extend our deepest gratitude for his many years of service.

Additionally, Captain Brian Morrison transitioned into a new role as Deputy Chief with the West Barnstable Fire Department—we wish him all the best in his new position.

With these transitions, the department was fortunate to have highly qualified individuals ready to step into key roles, leading to several well-earned promotions and new hires:

- Chief of Department – Patrick R. Hill (February 2025)
- Deputy Fire Chief – Michael R. Rogers (November 2024)
- Lieutenant – Jason Travis (October 2024)
- Firefighter – Michael Looney (July 2024)
- Fire Prevention Officer – Timothy Booth (July 2024)

Congratulations to all, and best of luck in your new roles!

GRANTS/REIMBURSEMENTS FY25

Ambulance Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) Program

The Ambulance Certified Public Expenditure (CPE) Program provides ambulance providers with the opportunity to receive additional Medicaid reimbursement up to the eligible cost of services delivered to MassHealth members. This program is administered in partnership with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS).

C-O-MM Fire has been a participant in this program since 2014. For FY24 we applied for and have received tentative approval for funding in the amount of \$119,763.00.

SAFE & Senior SAFE Grant (Community Risk Reduction)

In November 2024, SFPO Shawn Lehane applied for the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) Grant. This grant is highly competitive, requiring departments to meet specific criteria to qualify. Thanks to Shawn's dedication and hard work, we are proud to announce that C-O-MM Fire has been awarded \$8,100.00 in grant funding to support our SAFE and Senior SAFE programs. These funds, distributed among 266 departments across the Commonwealth, will help enhance early fire safety education throughout our schools, while also providing fire prevention assistance and education for our senior population.

Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant

Thanks to the efforts of Captain Eric Sabatinelli, the C-O-MM Fire Department has been awarded \$18,810.00 in State Fiscal Year 2025 funding through the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program, provided by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security and the Department of Fire Services (DFS).

This grant was used to purchase new master stream nozzles for all our fire trucks, replacing outdated nozzles that were over 20 years old. These upgrades will significantly enhance the department's firefighting capabilities, allowing for more effective fire suppression by improving our ability to direct large volumes of water.

Additionally, the department has applied for an additional \$9,500.00 in Round Two of Fiscal Year 2025 funding from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. If awarded, these funds will be used to purchase new EMS/extrication gear for our firefighters, further enhancing safety and operational readiness.

IN CLOSING

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the citizens of our district for your unwavering support. As we transition into a new chapter of leadership, with many of our members stepping into new roles, we remain deeply committed to serving this community. We understand the trust you place in us during times of emergency, and it is truly our honor to be there when you need us most.

If I can ever be of assistance or if you have any questions about the fire department, please don't hesitate to reach out. Your continued support means the world to us, and we are proud to serve this incredible community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Hill", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Patrick R. Hill
Chief of Department



**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS WATER DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 369 – 1138 MAIN STREET
OSTERVILLE, MA 02655
WWW.COMMWATER.COM**

**OFFICE OF
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
WATER SUPERINTENDENT
Tel 508-428-6691
FAX 508-428-3508**

Scott E. Crosby, Chairman
Peter Hansen, Vice Chairman
Kevin Medeiros, Clerk

2024-2025 PERSONNEL

Craig A. Crocker, Superintendent (1992)*
Glenn E. Snell, Assistant Superintendent (2013)*
Samuel A. Nickerson (1990)*
Kevin J. Ferguson (1994)*
Roger P. Raymond (1998)*
Matthew Pistone (2002)*
Beth Flick (2004)
Timothy Picard (2005)*
Serena Chase (2016)
Brian Paradise (2018)*
Elizabeth Sousa (2024)
Michael Ramsey (2024)*
Michael DiBuono (2024)

* State Certified Drinking Water Operators

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Water Commissioners would like to thank the voters of our District for your continued support in our endeavor to supply the best quality of drinking water possible. We ask that you continue your conservation efforts. They are crucial to protect our future resources and to control the current cost of water. Also, the MASS DEP is proposing to cut our permitted withdrawal amount thus effectively forcing us to impose mandatory restrictions and to possibly restrict new connections. For information and materials on conserving water contact our office at 508-428-6691 or visit our web site (www.commwater.com).

The goal of the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Water Department is to contribute to the well-being of our community by supplying affordable high-quality drinking water. We pledge to be a model Water Department providing the best service possible. We strive for excellence through education and communication with our community and within our organization.

Public Relations

The Department mailed out the annual Water Quality Report along with the January 2025 water bills. The report contains information on the safety and quality of water for the year 2024. Please visit our web site www.commwater.com for links to information such as the emerging PFAS-6 issue. If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to call, write or email the office.

Again, for 2025, we ask for your Voluntary Conservation efforts to control the cost of water, to protect the environment and to avoid mandatory water restrictions.

- Please avoid all outside water use between the hours of 6:00 AM and 6:00 PM.
 - Residents with automatic irrigation systems residing in homes on the EVEN numbered sides of streets are asked to water lawns and gardens on MON & WED only. Residents residing on ODD numbered sides of streets are requested to water lawns and gardens on TUES & THUR only.
 - Water only when necessary. Please be aware of the advance weather forecast. If wind/rain is forecast, adjust your watering schedule to minimize water consumption.
 - Maintain your lawn at a height of at least two (2) inches. This practice will protect roots and retain soil moisture.
 - Install rain sensor shutoff devices/ smart controllers on automatic irrigation systems.
- Water Conservation kits are available at no charge upon request. Use water wisely!

Budget & Water rates

The water rates can be found at www.commwater.com. We rely on revenue derived from water rates and fees to operate and fund capital improvements. This policy demands that we make every effort to operate efficiently. Our FY2026 budget reflects increased Department efficiency while continuing with the upkeep of necessary infrastructure improvements and preparing for the future. The budget has prioritized spending in all areas of operations. The

FY2026 operation & maintenance budget has increased 2.5% due mainly to the anticipated increase (contract negotiating year) in labor costs.

Pump Stations and Equipment

In 2024 we recorded withdrawals over one billion gallons for the year. The equipment performed well with no major problems. In fact, the equipment is in excellent condition due to regular maintenance and scheduled replacement. The annual well cleaning and performance testing has allowed us to identify pumping equipment that is not operating efficiently and correct any problems. We plan to have the new well #23 at the Hayden wellfield active for this season. The proposed water treatment plant (WTP) at the Hayden wellfield was approved by DEP. We are selecting a designer/engineer to assist with the design/plan for the facility. This process will take 2-3 years with an estimated construction start date of 2027. Work continues with our consultants to install PFAS treatment as necessary. Negotiations with Avangrid for the wind project landing at Craigville beach are on a pause at this time.

Distribution System Expansion & Improvements

Our consumption breakdown is 86% residential, 4% commercial, 6% municipal, and 4% unaccounted. We are pleased to report that the water supply system received a Class 1 rating (highest) from Insurance Services Office Inc. (ISO) from the last conducted Public Protection Classification (PPC) survey. Most insurers use the PPC classifications for underwriting and calculating premiums for residential, commercial, and industrial properties.

To make public water supply available, and to enhance fire protection to all residents of the District, the Board of Water Commissioners will continue to install water mains for existing streets and subdivisions that file a petition and meet the requirements. The Board aims to simplify the procedure and facilitate connections to the water system for these residents. To date, public water supply has been made available to over six hundred residential lots over the past thirteen years.

System improvements have been focused on the streets that the Town has scheduled for reconstruction and sewer installation. We have attempted to coordinate the necessary upgrades prior to this paving. The funds requested for FY25 will allow us to add/replace necessary piping to continue with our system improvement plan.

Cross- Connection Program

The Department will continue the cross-connection program by re-surveying and testing all necessary facilities. A cross-connection occurs whenever a potable drinking water line is directly or indirectly connected to a non-potable (fire service, irrigation system, cooling systems, boilers, etc.) piece of equipment or piping. An unprotected or inadequately protected cross connection on your premises could contaminate the drinking water in your dwelling, and in neighboring dwellings. The most common potential cross-connection is the garden hose. The Department installs a check valve with all new residential hookups & provides hose bib vacuum breakers to prevent back siphonage. Throughout the District there are 175 testable backflow prevention devices installed in commercial buildings, schools, apartment complexes and other necessary buildings.

Control your costs: home leak detection

It is important for residents to implement a periodic leak-detection survey in their own homes. Most homes have a low-flow indicator on their water meters, which is a small red diamond-shaped dial on the head of the meter. Turn off all water fixtures and look at the red dial. If the dial is moving, there is a leak in your home. In most cases the leak is a result of a toilet leak, which over time can add up. The purchase of a moisture sensor on automatic irrigation systems is also a good water saving idea. Residents need to learn as much as possible about how to consciously conserve water and how to make these changes become part of a regular routine. Contact the Department for assistance and free conservation kits or check out our website. ***Please conserve and use water wisely!***

Water Quality Sampling

The Department samples monthly for coliform bacteria throughout the system. The Department also samples for over 98 regulated and unregulated substances throughout the year. Laboratories certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts analyze all samples. Sample results are sent to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for analysis. Please refer to the table of your water quality report to see what is in your drinking water.

Training

Distribution operators are certified by the Massachusetts Board of Certification of Operators of Drinking Water Supply Facilities. The maintenance of these licenses requires training contact hours. Training classes are scheduled through various associations and provide our staff with “hands-on” training from customer service to safety. We would like to congratulate all staff members that continue their professional development.

In addition to thanking District customers, the Board of Water Commissioners extends our thanks and appreciation to our dedicated employees, the Prudential Committee, the Fire Department, the Clerk/Treasurer’s office and the various Town of Barnstable agencies for their welcome assistance and cooperation throughout the year. We are proud of the staff and management of the Department and are confident that consumers will continue to receive the best service we can provide.

Respectfully submitted,

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Scott E. Crosby, Chairman

Peter Hansen, Vice Chairman

Kevin Medeiros, Clerk

**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS WATER DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL STATISTICS**

2024 ANNUAL PUMPAGE

January	40,404,000
February	36,312,000
March	41,698,000
April	49,656,000
May	89,588,000
June	165,036,000
July	194,924,000
August	181,432,000
September	159,783,000
October	94,665,000
November	44,655,000
December	40,106,000

2024 TOTAL 1,138,259,000 GALLONS

FACTS ABOUT YOUR SYSTEM

Maximum Day: July 21, 2024 - 9,499,000 Gallons

Maximum Week: July 15, 2024 - July 21, 2024 - 48,759,000 Gallons

18 – New Services installed in 2024

12,384 – Service connections

72 – Services repaired/replaced in 2024

1.30 Miles of new & replaced water main installed in 2024

253.08 – Total miles of water mains

2,028 – Hydrants in service

1 – Hydrants repaired in 2024/ 15 Hydrants replaced

3,968 – Work orders issued

662 – Acres of watershed property

32 – Buildings

3 – Storage tanks

20 – Ground water sources



**Please visit www.commwater.com or call
508-428-6691 to obtain a copy of the
Water Quality Report.**

FY2026

Proposed Budgets

And

Warrant Articles*

**explanations on articles are for informational purposes only*

CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT
PRUDENTIAL OPERATION BUDGET

	Appropriated FY 2024	Appropriated FY 2025	Proposed FY 2026	AMOUNT INC/(DEC)	% INC OR DEC
SALARIES (52 Week Pay Year):					
PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	0.00%
CLERK/TREASURER	88,432.00	105,560.00	110,838.00	5,278.00	5.00%
ASST. CLERK/TREASURER	62,906.00	61,360.00	64,480.00	3,120.00	5.08%
TOTAL	151,338.00	166,920.00	175,318.00	8,398.00	5.03%
LONGEVITY PAY/SICK BUYBACK-RETIREMENT	0.00	1,160.00	2,340.00	1,180.00	101.72%
PART-TIME/ELECTION	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,500.00	500.00	25.00%
OVERTIME (Office Staff)	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	(500.00)	-33.33%
TAX COLLECTOR	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00%
MODERATOR	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.00	0.00%
Subtotal District Salaries	169,638.00	186,380.00	195,958.00	9,578.00	5.14%
DISTRICT EXPENDITURES:					
GROUP INSURANCE	3,295,478.00	3,477,232.00	3,650,670.00	173,438.00	4.99%
BC/BS	2,854,489.00	3,032,344.00	3,160,150.00	127,806.00	4.21%
MEDEX	174,550.00	175,085.00	215,448.00	40,363.00	23.05%
DENTAL	126,200.00	124,406.00	122,909.00	(1,497.00)	-1.20%
LIFE	2,550.00	2,568.00	2,542.00	(26.00)	-1.01%
MEDICARE	131,675.00	136,815.00	143,607.00	6,792.00	4.96%
SOCIAL SECURITY	6,014.00	6,014.00	6,014.00	0.00	0.00%
RETIREMENT ASSESSMENT	1,869,950.00	1,841,109.00	2,040,807.00	199,698.00	10.85%
INSURANCE	387,985.00	438,000.00	396,194.00	(41,806.00)	-9.54% *
FINANCIAL ADVISOR/BANKING	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,000.00	(2,000.00)	-40.00%
PRINTING & ADVERTISING	12,000.00	12,000.00	9,200.00	(2,800.00)	-23.33%
ELECTION/ADM	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	100.00% **
STREETLIGHTS	50,000.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	0.00%
Subtotal District Expenditures	5,620,413.00	5,823,341.00	6,151,871.00	328,530.00	5.64%
CONTINGENCY FUND	60,000.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	0.00%
EDUCATION & PROF. DUES	6,000.00	7,500.00	8,500.00	1,000.00	13.33%
PROFESSIONAL FEES	62,500.00	65,000.00	62,500.00	(2,500.00)	-3.85%
TELEPHONE (Local, Long Dist & Computer T-1)	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	0.00%
OFFICE SUPPLIES	5,500.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00	0.00%
OFFICE EQUIPMENT & SERVICES	4,000.00	4,000.00	3,500.00	(500.00)	-12.50%
Subtotal Office Expenses	140,000.00	144,000.00	142,000.00	(2,000.00)	-1.39%
PRUDENTIAL/TREASURER EXPENSES:	5,930,051.00	6,153,721.00	6,489,829.00	336,108.00	5.46%

*IOD Deductible move to Indemnity Fund

** New Budget Category

**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT
INFORMATION SYSTEM BUDGET**

	Appropriated FY2024	Appropriated FY2025	Proposed FY2026	AMOUNT INC/(DEC)	% INC OR DEC
SALARIES					
I.T. DIRECTOR	56,000.00	56,000.00	57,200.00	1,200.00	2.14%
EXPENSES					
COMPUTER SYSTEMS - IT SUPPORT SERVICES	96,000.00	98,400.00	102,000.00	3,600.00	3.66%
COMPUTER SYSTEMS - INTERNET SERVICE	5,000.00	5,500.00	5,500.00	0.00	0.00%
COMPUTER SYSTEM - SOFTWARE MAINTENANC	50,000.00	53,500.00	56,500.00	3,000.00	5.61%
SOFTWARE LICENSES (SUBSCRIPTIONS)	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.00	0.00%
LEGAL & PROFESSIONAL	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00%
SUPPLIES	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00%
TELEPHONE SYSTEM SERVICE	4,400.00	4,400.00	4,600.00	200.00	4.55%
COMPUTER SYSTEM - EQUIPMENT MAINTENAN	18,400.00	18,400.00	18,400.00	0.00	0.00%
INFORMATION SYSTEMS BUDGET TOTALS	249,300.00	255,700.00	263,700.00	8,000.00	3.13%

**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT
FIRE MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION BUDGET**

	Appropriated FY2024	Appropriated FY2025	Proposed FY2026	AMT OF INC OR (DEC)	% INC OR DEC
APPARATUS & REPAIR					
A. Personnel & Training	86,931.25	92,831.25	83,900.00	(8,931.25)	-9.62%
B. Auto Repair/Maintenance/Service	198,200.00	213,300.00	213,300.00	0.00	0.00%
C. Firefighter Equip, Supplies & Contracts	139,000.00	143,000.00	140,500.00	(2,500.00)	-1.75%
D. EMS	149,050.00	158,250.00	158,500.00	250.00	0.16%
E. Fire Prevention, Investigation & Education	28,900.00	33,200.00	34,000.00	800.00	2.41%
TOTAL APPARATUS & REPAIR	602,081.25	640,581.25	630,200.00	(10,381.25)	-1.62%
BUILDING & UPKEEP					
A. Station & Office Supplies	21,800.00	21,800.00	22,000.00	200.00	0.92%
B. Bldg Services & Contracts	41,500.00	46,600.00	56,000.00	9,400.00	20.17%
C. Bldg, Grounds/Supplies & Materials	73,000.00	75,000.00	77,000.00	2,000.00	2.67%
TOTAL BUILDING & UPKEEP	136,300.00	143,400.00	155,000.00	11,600.00	8.09%
UTILITIES & ADDITIONAL EXPENSES					
A. Fuels/Natural Gas	69,454.00	69,454.00	66,000.00	(3,454.00)	-4.97%
B. Light/Power	76,956.00	76,956.00	75,000.00	(1,956.00)	-2.54%
C. Telephone/Communications	34,000.00	34,000.00	34,000.00	0.00	0.00%
D. Legal Services & Public Relations	25,000.00	25,000.00	26,000.00	1,000.00	4.00%
E. Ambulance Billing Service	52,000.00	52,000.00	54,000.00	2,000.00	3.85%
TOTAL UTILITY & ADDITIONAL EXPENSES	257,410.00	257,410.00	255,000.00	(2,410.00)	-0.94%
FIRE CHIEF (includes education, longevity, stipends)	162,846.87	178,232.34	194,062.29	15,829.95	8.88%
DEPUTY CHIEF (includes education, longevity, stipends)	136,581.25	146,968.75	170,212.29	23,243.54	15.82%
ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL (includes longevity)	178,400.00	205,878.80	211,918.00	6,039.20	2.93%
FIREFIGHTER SALARIES (includes holidays, education, longevity)	5,275,000.00	5,223,456.90	6,296,345.96	1,072,889.06	20.54%
DISPATCHER SALARIES (includes holidays night diff, FLSA)	309,642.56	345,591.91	407,000.00	61,408.09	17.77%
FIREFIGHTER OVERTIME	1,223,790.00	1,260,503.70	1,303,000.00	42,496.30	3.37%
OTHER OVERTIME (Dispatch/Civilian)	50,667.00	52,187.89	61,000.00	8,812.11	16.89%
HOLIDAY PAY (Moved to Dept Salaries)	322,000.00	348,753.09	0.00	(348,753.09)	-100.00%
FIRE COMMISSIONERS-(\$3000 per commissioner)	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	0.00%
CUSTODIAN	60,501.60	63,211.00	65,891.60	2,680.60	4.24%
MECHANIC	77,760.00	85,696.00	88,192.00	2,496.00	2.91%
MECHANICAL SERVICES/OVERTIME	9,225.00	9,225.00	9,225.00	0.00	0.00%
RETIREMENT BUYOUT	120,000.00	120,000.00	150,000.00	30,000.00	25.00%
TRAINING	31,000.00	31,000.00	42,000.00	11,000.00	35.48%
UNIFORMS FIREFIGHTER	58,500.00	58,500.00	56,000.00	(2,500.00)	-4.27%
UNIFORMS DISPATCH	2,600.00	2,600.00	2,600.00	0.00	0.00%
BURNING PERMIT (DISPATCH)	2,000.00	2,000.00	0.00	(2,000.00)	-100.00%
TRANSITION/CONTINGENCY	0.00	496,548.15	0.00	(496,548.15)	-100.00%
TOTAL SALARIES	8,029,514.28	8,639,353.53	9,066,447.14	427,093.61	4.94%
FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET TOTALS	9,025,305.53	9,680,744.78	10,106,647.14	425,902.36	4.40%

**CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS WATER DEPARTMENT
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION BUDGET**

Operation & Maintenance	Appropriated FY 2024	Appropriated FY 2025	Proposed FY 2026	Amount INC/(DEC)	% INC OR DEC
CHEMICAL COSTS	327,000.00	327,000.00	327,000.00	0.00	0.00%
D.E.P. ASSESSMENT	10,510.00	11,610.00	10,410.00	(1,200.00)	-10.34%
ELECTRICITY	342,000.00	342,000.00	342,000.00	0.00	0.00%
EQUIPMENT OPERATING EXPENSES	52,000.00	52,000.00	52,000.00	0.00	0.00%
GENERAL OPERATION	121,440.00	123,900.00	128,000.00	4,100.00	3.31%
NEW EQUIPMENT	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	0.00%
OFFICE SUPPLIES	52,000.00	52,000.00	53,000.00	1,000.00	1.92%
PUMP STATIONS	161,000.00	161,000.00	170,000.00	9,000.00	5.59%
SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	64,500.00	65,000.00	65,000.00	0.00	0.00%
TELEPHONE	12,500.00	12,500.00	12,500.00	0.00	0.00%
WATER SYSTEM	123,975.00	123,975.00	128,000.00	4,025.00	3.25%
PROFESSIONAL FEES	11,000.00	12,000.00	15,000.00	3,000.00	25.00%
SALARIES					
SUPERINTENDENT	137,686.00	142,506.00	152,618.00	10,112.00	7.10%
ASST SUPERINTENDENT	107,025.00	110,772.00	119,175.00	8,403.00	7.59%
PUMP STATION OPERATOR	71,220.00	73,714.00	78,936.00	5,222.00	7.08%
WATER TECHNICIANS (6)	441,590.00	457,046.00	479,900.00	22,854.00	5.00%
OFFICE PERSONNEL (3)	155,820.00	161,274.00	169,338.00	8,064.00	5.00%
LONGEVITY & CONTINGENCY	25,206.00	41,207.00	26,653.00	(14,554.00)	-35.32%
OVERTIME	93,028.00	99,996.00	99,970.00	(26.00)	-0.03%
WATER COMMISSIONERS \$3000 per commissioner	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	0.00%
BUDGET TOTALS	2,320,000.00	2,380,000.00	2,440,000.00	60,000.00	2.52%
Prudential Costs, Group Health & Business Ins.	882,822.14	1,003,830.00	943,421.45	(60,408.55)	-6.02%
TOTAL BUDGET	3,202,822.14	3,383,830.00	3,383,421.45	(408.55)	-0.01%

*FY25 Salary lines do not reflect new contracted amounts

EXPENSES		FUNDING 								Totals	To Be Funded	
		Total	Taxation	Auth. To Borrow	Water Income (Estm)	SDC Estm. Recpt.	Water Surplus Fund	Reserve Fund	Transfer from Stabilization			Transfer from Available Funds
		Appropriation			3,383,421.45	30,292.34	1,017,305.27		331,014.06	77,511.19	4,839,544.31	
Articles	Water Budget	2,440,000.00			2,440,000.00						2,440,000.00	0.00
	Maturing Debt	329,522.64					329,522.64				329,522.64	0.00
	Maturing Interest	30,292.34				30,292.34					30,292.34	0.00
	Indirect Costs (toPC)	943,421.45			943,421.45						943,421.45	0.00
	Installations & Improvements	539,257.37					515,538.16			23,719.21	539,257.37	
	New Truck	52,700.00					48,957.22			3,742.78	52,700.00	
	New Truck	52,700.00					48,287.25			4,412.75	52,700.00	
	OPEB Liability Trust	75,000.00					75,000.00				75,000.00	0.00
	Reserve Account	45,636.45								45,636.45	45,636.45	0.00
		4,508,530.25	0.00		3,383,421.45	30,292.34	1,017,305.27	0.00	0.00	77,511.19	4,508,530.25	0.00
REMAINING					0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	331,014.06	0.00	331,014.06	
District req'd reserves= 5%		4,508,530.25 225,426.51										
proposed reserves= 7.34%		331,014.06 0 331,014.06										

May 20, 2025

**NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
AND
ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT**

Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District

Town of Barnstable

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Clerk of the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District:

Greetings:

You are hereby required and directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Barnstable residing within the territory comprising the Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District, qualified to vote in the District elections and affairs, to meet on Monday, May 19, 2025, at the Centerville Fire Station, 1875 Falmouth Road, Route 28, Centerville, Massachusetts, where the polls shall be open at 8:00 a.m., and close at 7:00 p.m., and then and there to vote upon the following officers, to wit:

One Prudential Committee Member for three years
One Water Commissioner for three years
One Fire Commissioner for three years

And to meet on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at the Centerville Fire Station, Centerville, Massachusetts, at 7:00 p.m., to act upon the following articles:

ARTICLE #1. To accept the Reports of the Prudential Committee, Information Systems, Fire Commissioners, and Water Commissioners as shown in the book.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

ARTICLE #2. To see if the District will vote pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 12 to authorize the Prudential Committee to extend a contract for street light operation and maintenance for a term in excess of three (3) years, including extensions, renewals, or options or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: In July 2022, following a Request for Proposals (RFP) procurement process, the District contracted with Pine Ridge Technologies, Inc. to operate and maintain the streetlights within the District. The original three (3) year contract is up on June 30, 2025 and the Prudential Committee would like to exercise the extension of the term for an additional two (2) years as optioned in the contract.

ARTICLE #3. To see if the District will vote pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 12 to authorize the Prudential Committee to extend a contract for ambulance billing services for a term in excess of three (3) years, including extensions, renewals, or options or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: In November 2022, following a Request for Proposals (RFP) procurement process, the District contracted with Coastal Medical Billing, Inc. to bill and collect ambulance fees for the District. The original three (3) year contract is up on December 31, 2025 and the Prudential Committee would like to exercise the extension of the term for an additional two (2) years as optioned in the contract.

ARTICLE #4. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$5,546,407.55** or some other sum and transfer and appropriate from the income of the Water Department **\$943,421.45** or some other sum, for the ordinary operating expenses of the Prudential Committee for Fiscal Year 2026, to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article represents the budget of the Prudential Committee totaling \$6,489,829.00, as shown on page 34.

ARTICLE #5. To see if the District will vote to appropriate from the income of the Water Department the sum of **\$2,440,000.00**, or some other amount for the ordinary operating expenses of the Water Department for Fiscal Year 2026, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Water Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article represents the budget of the Board of Water Commissioners totaling \$2,440,000.00 as shown on pages 37-38.

ARTICLE #6. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$8,351,344.75** or some other amount and transfer and appropriate from the income of the Ambulance Account the sum of **\$1,809,302.39** or some other amount for the ordinary operating expenses of the Fire Department for Fiscal Year 2026, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article represents the budget of the Fire Department totaling \$10,106,647.14 as shown on page 36.

ARTICLE #7. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$263,700.00** or some other amount for the ordinary operating expenses of the Information Systems Department for fiscal year 2026, to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article represents the FY26 budget of the Information Systems Department totaling \$263,700.00, as shown on page 35.

ARTICLE #8. To see if the District will vote to appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of **\$329,522.64**, to pay maturing debt of the Fire District incurred by or for the Water Department, as it becomes due and payable during Fiscal Year 2026, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *This article represents the payments for the maturing debt that will become due during fiscal year 2026.*

ARTICLE #9. To see if the District will vote to appropriate from Water System Development Charges income the sum of **\$30,292.34** to pay accruing interest on the debt of the Fire District incurred by or for the Water Department, as it becomes due and payable during Fiscal Year 2026, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *This article represents the payments for the interest that will accrue and become due on Water Department debt during fiscal year 2026.*

ARTICLE #10. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$36,785.00** to be paid, in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 41 Section 108B or other applicable law, to the Town of Barnstable as compensation for assessors, tax collectors and any certified collectors expenses incurred on behalf of the District, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *The Fire Districts in the Town appropriate \$80,000.00 to the Town of Barnstable each year for the expenses incurred for assessing and tax collection services. This article represents C-O-MM's proportionate share of that amount.*

ARTICLE #11. To see if the District will vote to authorize the Prudential Committee to either employ an outside auditor to audit the books and accounts of the District, including those of the Treasurer and Water Department; or to request an audit under the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 35, General Laws of Massachusetts, for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2025.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *It is prudent and customary to ensure that the public's financial interests are being watched and the auditor ensures that the financial statements are materially correct.*

ARTICLE #12. To see if the District will authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2026, as permitted by the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53F, as amended.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *These are agreements between banking institutions and the District Treasurer for services provided by the banks in consideration for funds on deposit. The Commissioner of Revenue of Massachusetts approves this form of agreement for such procedures.*

ARTICLE #13. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$100,000.00** to be added to the Stabilization Fund, or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *The District strives to maintain a minimum of 3-5% of the operating budget in the general purpose stabilization account. This fund is an available source of funding for future unforeseen one-time expenses, but may only be appropriated for any lawful use with a 2/3 vote at District Meeting.*

ARTICLE #14. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$1,000,000.00** to be added to the Fire Apparatus Stabilization Fund established per M.G.L. Chapter 40 Section 5b at the 2024 Annual District Meeting, or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *This fund was established in FY25 to allow us to put aside monies in this special purpose stabilization fund to mitigate or defray entirely the borrowing costs for upcoming Fire Department apparatus needs including the purchase of two new pumpers and a new ladder truck. When a purchase needs to be funded, a majority vote at District meeting will be required to appropriate the funds.*

ARTICLE #15. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$200,000.00** to the Capital Building Stabilization Fund as established per M.G.L. Chapter 40 Section 5b at the 2024 Annual District Meeting, or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *This fund was established in FY25 to allow us to put aside monies in this special purpose stabilization fund to mitigate or defray entirely borrowing costs for upcoming capital building improvements at the fire stations. A majority vote at District meeting will be required to appropriate the funds to a particular capital improvement project.*

ARTICLE #16. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$1,000,000.00** to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund to apply to the unfunded liability as described in M.G.L. Chapter 32B Section 20 with the approval of the Prudential Committee, or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *This article would transfer funds to fulfill our commitment to reserving monies each fiscal year for the unfunded liability of the District for the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund, to provide health, dental, and life insurance benefits to current and future retirees, their eligible dependents, and beneficiaries in accordance with Section 20 of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32B.*

ARTICLE #17. To see if the District will vote to accept the second to last paragraph of M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 111F to create a special fund to be known as the Injury Leave Indemnity Fund, to be expended by the Prudential Committee without further appropriation for payment of injury leave compensation or medical bills incurred under M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 111F or 100, to which appropriations may be made, and amounts received from insurance proceeds or restitution for

injuries to firefighters shall be credited, provided further that said Prudential Committee may, if the amounts therein not immediately necessary or required in the foreseeable future, release specific amounts to the General Fund; and further to raise and appropriate/or transfer from available funds **\$35,000.00** to said fund or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Prudential Committee, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *This article would allow the District to create this special fund to accumulate resources to pay for injured on duty costs for firefighters. Currently these costs are paid out of the operating budget and reimbursements are credited to the general fund, creating an unnecessary budget deficit. Any long-term absence could lead to a significant impact on the department's operating budget. Adopting this fund will provide a mechanism to pay the costs outside of the operating budget therefore normalizing the department budgets and reducing impacts due to long term injury. Annual funding of \$35,000 which had been budgeted in the operating budget would cover the deductible that must be met before insurance begins covering costs.*

ARTICLE #18. To see if the District will vote to raise or borrow and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds not to exceed **\$793,800.00** for the removal of three (3) underground storage tanks and installation of a new 4,000 gallon aboveground storage tank and fuel management dispensing system, or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *The District currently operates three underground fuel storage tanks and a fuel dispensing system that is over 30 years old. The age and condition of these tanks have raised concerns and contributed to increased insurance premiums in recent years. The proposed upgrade includes removing the underground storage tanks and replacing them with a safer 4,000-gallon aboveground storage tank along with landscaping and hardscaping. This will be an environmentally friendly containment system, along with state-of-the-art fuel dispensing technology to enhance accountability. The fuel tanks are utilized by C-O-MM Fire, C-O-MM Water, Cotuit Fire, Cotuit Water, and West Barnstable Fire.*

ARTICLE #19. To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$114,000.00** for the purchase of forty-eight (48) comprehensive sets of clear bunker gear, said funds to be spent under the direction of the Board of Fire Commissioners with approval of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: *The District has been replacing outdated bunker gear five sets at a time for the last several years. In our continued commitment to the health and safety of our first responders, we would like to replace all of the firefighters' main set of gear with clear PFAS FREE bunker gear. We will then resume the staggered replacement of secondary sets beginning next year. The CLEAR gear will reduce the toxins that firefighters are exposed to in the line of duty.*

ARTICLE #20. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$65,000.00** for the purchase of physical examinations for all firefighters of the C-O-MM Fire Department, compliant with the **National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1582, Standard on Comprehensive Occupations Medical Program for Fire Departments**, such funds to be expended by the Board of Fire Commissioners with the approval of the Prudential committee, or take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: Every other year C-O-MM Fire provides full NPFA-compliant physicals to all interested members. Firefighters face a significantly higher risk of developing cancer due to repeated exposure to hazardous chemicals, toxic smoke, and carcinogens released during fires. According to the CDC and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), firefighters are 9% more likely to be diagnosed with cancer and 14% more likely to die from cancer compared to the general population. As a commitment to our dedicated first responders, these funds will be used to procure comprehensive head-to-toe physicals that include chest x-ray, cancer marker detection, cardiac stress tests, and pulmonary function tests for all interested C-O-MM FD members.

ARTICLE #21. To see if the district will raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$70,000.00** for the purchase of a new Fire Prevention vehicle. The purchase will be offset by netting any proceeds of a sale or trade of the existing vehicle, whichever is in the best interest of the District, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Fire Commissioners with the approval of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: Fire Prevention currently operates a 2014 Ford Explorer, which is next in line for replacement. Fire Prevention vehicles accumulate significant mileage daily while conducting residential and commercial inspections. One Fire Prevention vehicle was replaced last year, and this vehicle is scheduled for replacement in FY26 due to high usage and signs of wear. The trade-in or resale value will be applied toward the purchase of the new vehicle.

ARTICLE #22. To see if the district will raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$82,000** for the purchase of a new Deputy Chief Officer's Vehicle to be utilized by the Deputy Fire Chief. The purchase will be offset by netting any proceeds of a sale or trade of the existing Deputy Chief's vehicle, whichever is in the best interest of the District, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Fire Commissioners with the approval of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: The current Deputy Chief vehicle, a 2016 Chevy Tahoe, is next in line for replacement. As a Chief Officer vehicle, it plays a critical role in our fleet and serves as an incident command post during complex emergencies. While the vehicle has been well maintained, it is beginning to show signs of wear and erosion. The trade-in or resale value will be applied toward the purchase of the new vehicle.

ARTICLE #23. To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds the sum of **\$10,000.00** for the purchasing of three (3) Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs) for the C-O-MM Fire Department, such funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Fire Commissioners with the approval of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Fire Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: The C-O-MM Fire Department is committed to equipping all frontline apparatus with AEDs to enhance our ability to provide life-saving interventions during medical emergencies. AEDs play a critical role in improving survival rates for individuals experiencing sudden cardiac arrest by

delivering rapid defibrillation when needed. Currently, two of our vehicles operate with AEDs that are reaching the end of their service life and must be replaced. Additionally, another department vehicle requires an AED to ensure all responders have access to this vital equipment. These funds will allow us to purchase new Stryker LIFEPAK AEDs, ensuring that every emergency response unit is fully equipped to serve and protect the public with the most up-to-date lifesaving technology.

ARTICLE #24. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of **\$515,538.16** and re-appropriate from Article 15 from the June 23, 2020 Annual District Meeting the sum of **\$23,719.21**, making a total sum of **\$539,257.37** for the labor and materials necessary for new water service installations, repairs to the water system, leak detection, tree/brush removal, meter replacements, hydrant maintenance, replacement of undersize and older piping, water main extensions, and other related upgrades within the system, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, with the approval of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Water Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article will allow the District to sub-contract related water improvements through the public procurement process. This will continue the upgrade and maintenance of the entire water system as necessary. The amount requested is based on an estimated number of planned improvements and necessary maintenance of facilities. Principal funding for this article is to be transferred from Water Surplus.

ARTICLE #25. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of **\$48,957.22** and transfer and re-appropriate from article #17 of the May 21, 2024 Annual District Meeting the sum of **\$3,742.78** for a total of **\$52,700.00** for the purchase of (1) four wheel drive pick-up truck and related equipment, and to sell or trade a 2015 Chevrolet truck to offset the cost of such purchase, whichever is in the best interest of the District, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, with the approval of Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Water Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article will allow the purchase of a new vehicle through the public procurement process and the sale or trade of a high mileage (95k) vehicle. The new vehicle will have increased fuel efficiency and safety features. Our mechanic has recommended replacement of the vehicle based on a review of the fleet. Funding will be transferred from Water Surplus and the remaining balance of Article #17 from last year.

ARTICLE #26. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of **\$48,287.25** and transfer and re-appropriate from article #16 from the May 21, 2024 Annual District Meeting the sum of **\$4,412.75** for a total of **\$52,700.00** for the purchase of (1) four wheel drive pick-up truck, and related equipment, and to sell or trade a 2015 utility truck to offset the cost of such purchase, whichever is in the best interest of the District, said funds to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, with the approval of Prudential Committee, or to take any action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Water Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article will allow the purchase of a new vehicle through the public procurement process and the sale or trade of a high mileage vehicle. The new vehicle will have increased fuel efficiency and safety features. Our mechanic has recommended replacement of the vehicle based on a review of the fleet. Funding will be transferred from Water Surplus and the remaining balance of Article #16 from last year.

ARTICLE #27. To see if the District will vote to transfer and appropriate from Water Surplus the sum of **\$75,000.00** to the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Liability Trust Fund to apply to the water department's portion of the unfunded liability as described in M.G.L. Chapter 32B Section 20, under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners with the approval of the Prudential Committee, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Water Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: This article will contribute to the fund established for the liability identified by government accounting standards to provide group insurance benefits to current and future retirees and their eligible dependents in accordance with Section 20 of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 32B.

ARTICLE #28. To see if the District will vote to transfer and re-appropriate from Article 19 of the May 21, 2024 Annual District Meeting the remaining balance of **\$45,636.45**, to a reserve fund account said funds to be expended under the direction of the Prudential Committee, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 5C, or to take any other action thereon.

Requested by the Board of Water Commissioners, Recommended by the Prudential Committee

Explanation: The funds will allow the Department to meet unforeseen obligations after approval of the Prudential & Water Commissioners. While this fund is not directly appropriated to a particular use, unforeseen expenditures do occur such as price increases of supplies and emergency repairs. Transfers may be approved for the use of all or any portion of the fund to meet these unforeseen events.

HEREOF FAIL NOT to make due return of the Warrant and your doings thereon at said meeting. Given under our hands this second day of May, in the Year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty Five.

PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Carlton Crocker, Chairman

John Lacoste

David V. Lawler



A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Clerk/Treasurer, Molly Stevens
Centerville-Osterville-Marstons Mills Fire District

