



## **Why this newsletter:**

This is a report on what has occurred with the system operations and management since the last newsletter issued June 7, 2019, including summarizing the financial status for the year fiscal year ending April 2020. Along with this newsletter we are also sending the annual consumer confidence report, explaining the testing

**Activity since the June 2019 newsletter:** In approximate chronological order, the following have occurred:

- The FD#1 operations and management team and Vermont Technical College worked closely with the State of Vermont Drinking Water section to obtain final approval for funding a system-wide asset management plan (AMP) engineering evaluation. The AMP is analogous to a comprehensive medical physical examination, in this case performed to identify strengths and vulnerabilities of our water system. This allows identifying, scheduling and budgeting infrastructure improvements needed to both catch-up on deferred maintenance and address normal aging of our system components. The AMP is being funded by the State of Vermont through a forgivable loan, and the engineering is being executed by the Dufresne Group of Springfield, Vermont. We are currently at about the 75% completion stage in the process, with a draft report currently being reviewed by the prudential committee, VTC, and the State of Vermont Drinking Water division.
- We held a summer gathering of our community members at the fire house on August 15, 2019 with about 35 persons attending the barbeque on that warm August evening.
- We are continuing our discussions with Vermont Technical College (VTC) for formalizing the roles in managing what the State of Vermont now recognizes as the single entity of the Randolph Center Water System, #5177.
- Carolyn Lumbra resigned as treasurer in April 2020, with Bill DeFlorio agreeing to serve as replacement. We are grateful for Carolyn's service as treasurer in the past two years and prior to that on the Prudential Committee.
- We are grateful that we ended the year without any major pipeline or pumping system breaks, and we did not undertake any capital improvements.
- The Randolph Center Water System #5177, our jointly operated water system with VTC was notified on May 15, 2020 by the Green Mountain Water Environment Association that we received their Water Facility Excellence Award for 2020. The system was nominated by the State of Vermont Drinking Water division to recognize the cooperative spirit and effectiveness of the jointly operated system in serving the public to provide safe drinking water, fire protection, in a sustainable manner.

*The list of individuals instrumental in supporting the system in its 170 year history is extensive and gratefully acknowledged. Those who have in recent times dedicated their time, energy, and expertise deserve mention and include the following:*

*Dave Race, water system operator at VTC, Ted Manazir, Director of Facilities, and water system operator at VTC, Dave Rubin, Associate Dean of Administration at VTC, Carolyn Lumbra, FD#1 prudential committee and treasurer, Mike Regan, FD#1 prudential committee and water system operations, Bill DeFlorio, FD#1 prudential committee and water system operations, Dave Farnham, FD#1 prudential committee and water system operations, Carol Doss, FD#1 clerk, Mary Shappell, FD#1 clerk, John Doss, FD#1 prudential committee, Jay Hooper FD#1 prudential committee, Dan Lulumia, FD#1, collector of rents and taxes, Bob Dileo, FD#1 accountant, John Lens, FD#1 prudential committee.*

*Those who have in the past been instrumental in supporting the water system include: Phil & Gertrude Hodgdon, Edward Kibby, Warren Bradbury, Wes Herwig, Bob Crosier, Pete Trask, Alice & Paul LaFrance, Carol LaLumia, Preston Purple, Jan Floyd, Colleen Regan, Dana Dean and no doubt some others whose names don't come to mind right away.*



**Fire District Financial Situation:**

The fire district income and expense summary (accrual basis) for the fiscal year which ended April 2019 (FYE2019) is:

Income	\$41,707.81
Expenses	\$19, 159.38
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Net Income	\$22, 548.43

The FD#1 financial reserves are at \$68,435.75 (FYE2020), somewhat recovered from the prior decline from \$76,310 (FYE 2017) to \$ 47,451 (FYE 2019). Note: These income, expense and reserve amounts are exclusive of the accrued asset management fee expenses of \$44,300.85, which can be forgiven by the State of Vermont Water Infrastructure Financing Program upon meeting the program’s criteria of a completed, and accepted Asset Management Plan.

The prudential committee has decided that based on the current financial situation of the fire district, that there will not be any change in current water use rates, nor any change proposed for the current tax rate, for the next fiscal year, ending in 2021.

**Your opportunity to participate** FD#1 is a community volunteer operated system where we welcome your ideas and willingness to provide volunteer support for helping to manage the system. To learn more, ask any of our volunteers listed on our website at [http://www.rfd1.org/?page\\_id=368](http://www.rfd1.org/?page_id=368) The website also includes, under the Notices tab, our meeting dates and agenda. Meetings are open to the public and we welcome your attendance and input.

**Annual Meeting:**

Our annual meeting is customarily held in May. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, we have not yet held our annual meeting, and instead intend to hold that at our next monthly meeting which is scheduled for June 18, 2019 at 7PM. We have held our past two monthly meetings remotely, using the Microsoft Teams platform, and will do the same for the June 18 meeting. Anyone wishing to participate in the meeting can arrange to do by sending an email to John Lens, at [johnelens@gmail.com](mailto:johnelens@gmail.com), indicating the email address which they will using to participate in the meeting. If you wish to participate but do not have an email account, you can also participate by telephone call-in, which we can provide you the number for. Contact John Lens at 802-272-2796 to indicate your interest to participate by telephone call in.

Agenda for the annual meeting includes customary business reporting of the treasurer, and engineer, and voting on the annual tax rate, the elective officers of the fire district, which include the prudential committee position whose term expires in 2020, clerk, treasurer, collector of taxes, and three auditors. Those eligible to vote are Randolph inhabitants qualified by law to vote in town meetings and who have resided for one year within the fire district.

Sincerely,

**The Randolph Fire District #1 Prudential Committee    John Doss, Jay Hooper, and John Lens, Chair**