

# **BOARD OF FIRE ENGINEERS**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**January 5, 2026**

### **Open Session held in the Fire Station Meeting Room**

Board Members present: Kate Cannie, Jim Dawley and Paul Copponi

Others attending: Chief Gerry Smith, Inspector Ed Kornak, Rich Tiberi and members of the Department

Meeting called to order at 4:30pm.

1. Citizens Comments : None offered

2. Regular Business:

Minutes for the December 1, 2025 meeting were approved.

Approved vouchers for Ambulance were \$7,906.48 and \$22,262.00.

Approved vouchers for Fire were \$5,547.31, \$10,817.80 and \$992,996.00 (approved Engine 1 replacement).

Officer's Report for December 2025 presented by Chief Smith:

- i. There were 50 Fire responses (439 YTD) and 34 Ambulance responses (325 YTD) during October. Of the 18 Firefighters, 0 FFs did not respond to any calls, 6 FFs responded to 10% or less of the calls, 7 FFs responded to 11% to 29% of the calls and 5 FFs responded to 30% or more of the calls. 5 Officers responded, 2 responded to less than 49% of the calls and 3 responded to more than 50% of the calls. Average personnel per call was 6.47.
- ii. Department activities during the month of December was the pre-delivery inspection of the new Engine 1, Town to take delivery on January 9, 2026. The old E1 to be put on MMA bid per Chapter 30b. Six new hires onboarded, orientation in January with an additional 4 hires in-process, 4 town residents enrolled in the EMT training school. Chief Smith and Rich Tiberi met with the Warrant Committee to discuss and review FY27 operating budgets. The Commonwealth's fire incident reporting program has been replaced with NERIS, beginning January 1st.
- iii. Inspector Kornak reported during December there were 10 (99 ytd) Smoke/CO inspections, 2 (29 ytd) above ground Propane Tanks installed, 0 (21 ytd) under ground Propane Tanks installed, 1 (9 ytd) Hot Works permits issued, 5 (47 ytd) oil tanks removed and 5 (28 ytd) oil tanks installed, 3 (11 ytd) oil burner installed, 1 (14 ytd) demolition permit issued, 1 (14 ytd) Annual Building inspections. No December items for Solar/ESS (10 ytd), BDA Systems (5 ytd), New fire alarm panels (1 ytd), School fire drills (18 ytd), Summer Camp inspections (13 ytd) and

15 ytd miscellaneous inspections. A Walpole St home has been condemned by the Board of Health, and a sign has been posted to protect firefighters. Inspected all new home construction sites for temporary heat and the presence of CO detectors.

3. The following were discussed, reviewed and approved by the Board, the Town Report for 2025, the Fire Department FY27 budget totaling \$943,943 which includes \$812,643 for Salaries and \$131,300 for Expenses, the Ambulance FY27 budget totaling \$559,788 which includes \$484,281 for Salaries and \$75,507 for Expenses.

The next monthly open meeting will be Monday, February 2, 2026 at 4:30 pm in the Fire Department Meeting Room.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.