

**Board of Fire Commissioners
Fire District No. 1
330 Stillwells Corner Road
Freehold, NJ 07728**

Regular Meeting

January 13, 2026

Chairman A.J. Story called the regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7:00pm, and Mr. Fogarty led the flag salute. Roll call was taken, and the Commissioners present at the meeting were A.J. Story, Michael Fogarty, Phil Engel, John Toutounchi, and Jonathan Dunberg. Board Secretary, Jaime Story, joined the meeting.

Mr. Story opened up the meeting for the budget hearing. The audience had no questions about the budget. Next Tuesday, January 20th there will be a meeting to adopt budget.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to close the budget hearing and meet next week to adopt.

Second: Mr. Engel

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Motion was made by Mr. Engel to approve the minutes from the December 23, 2025.

Second: Mr. Dunberg

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Fogarty read the January 13, 2026 Treasurer's Report into record.

Motion was made by Mr. Fogarty to transfer \$40,000.00 from Ocean First Money Market to Ocean First checking and to pay the bills in the amount of \$33,608.23.

Second: Mr. Engel

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Mr. Fogarty made a motion to rescind resolution to use \$60k that was originally to be utilized for electronic signs and was now marked for a down payment for scott packs. The \$60k was submitted for 2026 budget, but the DCA has rejected it. The money will need to be re-submitted to the budget.

Second: Mr. Toutounchi

Roll call vote: 5-0 all in favor

Legal: N/A

Insurance: N/A

Buildings: N/A

Chief's Report: Chief Frank Santore reported the following:

- Excited for our first meeting and working together in 2026.
- January 17, 2026 is the Fire Department's Installation Dinner. East Freehold will be covering from 5pm to midnight; dual dispatch until 8am.

- Need to sit down with two commissioners to review SOGs for 2026 and what is in the handbook. Mr. Story has already volunteered to sit down with me. Chief Santore will also try to have them ready by January 27th meeting and send ahead for pre-read.
- Station 16-1 was asked to cover Monsey Fire Department in Rockland County, NY. Chief Santore spoke to Mr. Story and was told insurance will not cover out of state unless the department has an emergency. Chief Santore requested a copy of the insurance policies. Mr. Dunberg stated that coverage in the state of NJ is fine, but traveling outside of the state to cover another department is not covered. Training is an exception and needs to be a different insurance policy. Mr. Fogarty stated the insurance policies are provided to the President every year and will be shared.
- An executive session was requested to discuss personnel.

President's Report: Matt Greco reported on the following:

- He is excited for 2026 to work everyone and will stand by to attend the executive session.

Old Business:

- Harassment Training reminders were sent out to those who didn't complete it yet. Chief Santore and Mr. Greco will send out reminders.
- Mr. Fogarty is working on updated quote for scott packs and will finalize what the fire company wants. We can decide later if we want the company to purchase the pack bottles back or not.
- Mr. Fogarty stated that the District still has funds for the down payment for the scott packs.

New Business:

- Mr. Dunberg received two petitions for commissioner candidates – Andrew Story and John Toutouchi.
- Board of Elections now has updated email information and what we need for upcoming election. Mr. Dunberg will be running the election at the firehouse.
- Mr. Braslow will work on outline for the Board so they know what get posted, where, and frequency for all upcoming meetings, hearings, etc. However, in March 2026, the information will no longer have to be posted in public spaces; a website is now appropriate.
- Mr. Story asked for the Board to start to help in creating a master binder of all contacts, duties, and processes for any new commissioners or when they need to fill in for one another.

Audience: N/A

Motion was made by Mr. Story to go into executive session for personnel reasons at 7:19pm.

Second: Mr. Dunberg

5-0 all in favor

(back from executive at 8:29pm)

There being no further business, Mr. Story made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm.

Second: Mr. Engel

5-0 all in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Dunberg
/js