BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, March 3, 2026
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Room 1
Monthly Meeting

Commissioners present: Tim Reynolds, John Cotter, Craig Mansfield
Guests Present: Brian Auld, Todd Gelston, Chris Leidemer

1. **Called to order** at 5:03 pm by Tim Reynolds and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for past member and Commissioner Micky Pear.

2. **Acceptance of Minutes**:
   a. Motion to approve the minutes pf the meeting on 02/03/26 as presented, made by John Cotter, seconded by Tim Reynolds. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Bill Approvals:
   a. Bills to be paid were reviewed and discussed. Motion to approve the invoices as presented and discussed by Craig Mansfield, seconded by Tim Reynolds. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Budget Recap:
   a. John Cotter provided a budget recap noting the departments to-date spending. To date for the 2025-26 budget year started with $734,884 and to date we have spent $472,633.02 leaving us a remaining amount of $262,250.98. This is a total of 64.3% spend to date. Ongoing increase in vehicle repairs.

5. Old Business:
   a. First round of Radio programing for all mobiles is complete. We need to get another day scheduled to get the programing completed.
   b. Craig Mansfield is still working on getting meeting set up with police and school regarding the School MCI drill.

6. Selectman's Report:
   a. Todd Gelston reported budget process is well underway. Although the request was to have a 0% increase from the Board of Finance this is not going to be possible. Contractual increases, cost of products, etc. are out of the control of the town.
   b. Ambulance / Fire Department agreement is still work in process and town hopes to have signed beginning of April.
   c. Thank you to the Fire Department and Public Works teams for great work during the past storm.

7. Visitors Participation:
   a. None

8. Reports:
   a. Medical Division Report: In Chief's Report
   b. Career Staff Report: See below.
   c. Marine Division Report: No report.

d. Fire Marshal's Report: No report.
e. Fire Police Division Report: No report.
f. Junior Division Report: See below
g. Recruitment Division Report: See below
h. Public Relations Report: No report
i. Special Events Report: No report
j. Fire Chief's Report: See below

9. <u>Building & Equipment Reports:</u>

a. Building Report: Boiler at company 3 has a hole in it and needs to be replaced. Received on quote for $8K. Heat working on and off.

   Craig Mansfield provided the group an update on the firehouse project. Construction Manager RFP's due back on Thursday night. Committee will meet Thursday night and shortlist for interviews, currently planned for March 12th. Public hearing goal remains for end of May.

b. Fire Equipment and Maintenance Report: See Chief's Report

c. Radio Equipment Report: Discussed in minutes above.

10. <u>Correspondence:</u>

a. None

11. <u>New Business:</u>

a. None

12. <u>Adjournment:</u>

a. Motion to adjourn at 5:36pm made by John Cotter, second by Craig Mansfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:

Craig Mansfield
Secretary
03/27/2026

REPORTS

Medical Division Report: No report submitted
- Included in Chief's report

Career Staff Report: Report by Chris Leidemer
- Set for fit testing
- Packs and SCBA out for service
- Tracking for only 1 open shift a month
- Discussion on Fire Marshal Training and response

Marine Report: No report submitted
- No Report

Fire Marshal: No report submitted.
- No Report

Junior Division Report: No report submitted
- Juniors are doing a great job and completing trainings at the fire academy
- Will continue recruitment from High School

Recruitment Division Report: No report submitted

Public Relations Report: No report submitted
- Lots of articles in paper. Great PR.

Special Events Report: No report submitted.
- Awards Banquet on the 14th of March

Fire Chief's Report: Submitted by Brian Auld

EAST HADDAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

CALLS:
February 2026

ONE	APPLIANCE FIRE
ONE	MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT
ONE	STRUCTURE FIRE
ONE	CARBON MONOXIDE EMERGENCY
ONE	SMOKE INVESTIGATION
TWO	HAZMAT INCIDENT
TWO	MUTUAL AID STRUCTURE FIRE
THREE	POWERLINE INCIDENT
SEVEN	FIRE ALARM
FORTY-NINE	R-1 MEDICAL

68 TOTAL CALLS FOR FEBRUARY 2026

INCREASE OF 10 CALLS OVER LY (+ 3 FIRES / + 7 MEDICALS)

PERSONNEL –

- **Congratulations to:**
  - Junior Firefighter Dylan Miller in becoming certified as an Emergency Medical Responder

- The following Junior Personnel are enrolled in the introduction to the fire service at the state fire academy
  - Dylan Miller
  - John Mason
  - Nate Gracia

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- We have one Senior Candidate currently in the process

TRAINING

- **NEXT DRILL IS:**
  - Dodge Ball with SCBA along with the Lyme Fire Company
  - Tuesday March 10th / 19:00 / Company # 2
  - Lieutenant Nate Botting will be the instructor

EVENTS

- **CAR SEAT INSTALL**
  - Great job to Lieutenant Michelle Walker for coordinating the event

- **AWARDS NIGHT**
  - March 14th – (FF Amber Tremblay)
  - 5pm at the legion

- **OFFICER WEEKEND (March 27, 28,29)**
  - Myself, Melanie, Nate, Tim, Michelle, Erik, Rob, Jimmy, Spencer

- **EAST EGG HUNT**–
  - April 4th – (Lieutenant Michelle Walker) at the GoodSpeed Opera house
  - Many donations have come from Amazon wishlist and Ray of Light farm
  - A big thank you to all residents who have donated

- **NUMBER SIGN CAMPAIGN**
  - 22 signs have been completed

APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

- **NEW SOPS FOR CAR 15 / UTILITY 2**
  - Have been revised and will be dispersed at tonight's monthly meeting

- **ENGINE 1-15**
  - Was fixed with part installed for fuel leak

- **TANKER 1-15**
  - No issues found upon inspection

- **ENGINE 4-15**
  - Is back in service with all repairs made with the exception of the officer side steamer

- **ENGINE 6-15**
  - LED headlights have been ordered by LT Eric Walker
  - Leaf Blower Mount is scheduled to be added by LT Nate Botting

- **BRUSH 15**
  - Leaf Blower Mount has been added by LT Jimmy Spirito

- **UTILITY 2-15**
  - Was brought back to Morin Diesel for a fuel leak
  - Has been repaired and is back in service
  - Lift Struts for rear cap have been ordered by LT Eric Walker

- **CAR 15**
  - Auto Eject door is broken – Scranton to send a new one

- **COMPANY # 1**
  - Ordered a new Bearcat BC355N 800 MHZ scanner and new antenna from Scranton

- **SCBA MASK FIT TESTING**
  - April 7th, Company # 2 – 5:30p – 7p – in dayroom

- **SCBA FLOW TESTING –**
  - Also. April 7th – Company # 2

- **JUNIOR VESTS**
  - Lieutenant Botting has placed order

MEDICAL DIVISION

- **CPR/FIRST AID TRAINING FOR POLICE** –
  - February 21st from 8a – 3p

- 9 officers participated

- **EMR/EMT CLASS –**
  - Sponsored by EHFD
  - Started **March 2, 2026**
  - Spencer Laddy-Locks, Resa Mcquarrie, and Matt Torrance have signed up

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FROM ME

- **BUDGET 2026 – 2027**
  - Went well
  - Selectmen were thankful for the $35k increase – at 2.6% increase
  - I appreciate all personnel that attended for support

- **APPARATUS COMMITTEE**
  - The bid spec has been updated by LT E Walker and has been sent to Linda Zemienski to post
  - Was Extremely well received

- **BRUSH TRUCK COMMITTEE**
  - The committee is being revitalized
  - The bid spec is being revised by Captain Kyle Mosig
  - We discovered that we have $500k in apparatus reserve for this purpose

- **ENGINEER MATT LUTTON**
  - It is with regret that I announce the resignation of Engineer Matt Lutton
  - Effective February 26th as he has taken a job as career firefighter in his home town Minnesota

- **CAPTAIN RYAN MINER**
  - It is with regret that I announce the officer resignation of Captain Ryan Miner
  - Miner will be moving back to Deep River
  - Miner would like to stay on as a Special member as he still is a Career Firefighter and will be rejoining Deep River
  - A special election will be executed tonight for Captain and possible Lieutenant

- **FORMER COLCHESTER AND SALEM FIREFIGHTER ROB BROWN**
  - Thank you to all personnel that reported for Rob Brown's ceremony
  - It was greatly appreciated

- **MONDAY 23RD STORM COVERAGE**
  - Thank you to all that participated in the standby