

EASTCHESTER FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE EASTCHESTER BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 13, 2025

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners held on Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., at Eastchester Town Hall - Court Room (40 Mill Road, Eastchester, NY 10709).

Board Members Present:

Chairman Paul M. Ranellone
Commissioner Paul J. Carlo
Commissioner Anthony J. Lore, Sr.
Commissioner Tony Cerasi
Commissioner Luke Yankowski

In Attendance:

Chief Brian Tween
Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom
Secretary Marissa “Isang” Smith

1. Call to Order

1.1 - Meeting Called to Order

November 13, 2025 - Regular Meeting

Chairman Ranellone called the November 13, 2025 Regular Meeting meeting to order at 7:00 PM, which took place at Eastchester Town Hall - Court Room (40 Mill Road, Eastchester, NY 10709).

The November 13, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Eastchester Board of Fire Commissioners is called to Order.

2. Salute to the Flag

3. Calgi Construction Presentation - Building Conditions Survey - Representatives were not in attendance yet.

4. Treasurer Report

Treasurer Jamie Hedstrom provided an overview of the financial outlook as of October 31, 2025. Presenting a net budget surplus of \$1.5 Million. At this time, Hedstrom recommended smaller budget transfers for accounts over budget for the year. Hedstrom offered to read the motion. The Board approved.

Hedstrom proceeded to read the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves the budget transfers for those GL accounts where the 2025 expenditures exceeded the amount budgeted for the GL account, as follows:

From:	To:	Amount
9040.8 Workers Compensation	1140.5 Payroll Processing Exp	\$ 6,000.00
9040.8 Workers Compensation	9045.8 Life Insurance - Local 916	\$ 6,065.18
9040.8 Workers Compensation	3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	\$ 1,002.37
9040.8 Workers Compensation	3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 20,000.00
9040.8 Workers Compensation	3145.4 Association Dues	\$ 500.00
3090.2 Certiorari	3010.2 Coats, Boots, Helmets	\$ 12,000.00
3413.13 Overtime- Sick Incentive	3413.2 Overtime - Fire Prevention	\$ 4,000.00
Total Budget Transfers		\$ 49,567.55

Motion by Commr. Yankowski, seconded by Chairman Ranellone
 Aye: Commr. Yankowski, Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Carlo, Chairman.
 Ranellone

Final: Motion Carried

Hedstrom continued with her report below:

November 13, 2025

To: Board of Fire Commissioners, Eastchester Fire District
From: Jamie Hedstrom, Treasurer
Subject: Actual vs. Budget Comparison, October 2025

The financials as of October 31, 2025 currently present a net budget surplus of approximately \$1.5M.

At this time, budget transfers are recommended for the following accounts that are over budget for 2025:

From:	To:	Amount
9040.8 Workers Compensation	1140.5 Payroll Processing Exp	\$ 6,000.00
9040.8 Workers Compensation	9045.8 Life Insurance - Local 916	\$ 6,065.18
9040.8 Workers Compensation	3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	\$ 1,002.37
9040.8 Workers Compensation	3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	\$ 20,000.00
9040.8 Workers Compensation	3145.4 Association Dues	\$ 500.00
3090.2 Certiorari	3010.2 Coats, Boots, Helmets	\$ 12,000.00
3413.13 Overtime- Sick Incentive	3413.2 Overtime - Fire Prevention	\$ 4,000.00
Total Budget Transfers		\$ 49,567.55

Additional budget transfers will be recommended after year-end to account for any remaining overages at that time.

Funds allocated to 2025

Below is the current list of budget encumbrances for 2025.

Budget Encumbrances- Purchases initiated in 2024 that won't be complete until 2025

Emergency Equipment	\$26,204.90
Coats, Boots, Helmets	\$22,836.00
Total	\$49,040.90

The above budget encumbrances have been fully expended at this time. I will work with the Chief to determine what budget encumbrances, if any, are anticipated for 2026.

Budget Encumbrances- Engine to be delivered in Q3 2026

2024 Encumbrance- Fire Equip and Cap Outlay	\$500,000.00
2025 Encumbrance- Fire Equip and Cap Outlay	\$500,000.00

The original agreed-upon cost of the engine was \$1,064,000; however, this amount is anticipated to decrease due to a change in the build. Any additional amount due in excess of the \$1,000,000 above will be paid with uncommitted surplus funds in 2026.

Other:

Treasury Direct Investments

We currently have \$12M invested in Treasury Direct Investments, in \$2-3M increments. Interest rates are currently around 3.9%. We will continue to decrease our investments to cover operating expenses through our next tax collection in May 2026.

NYSHIP Updates

- We are waiting on NYSHIP to publish the 2026 rates, at which time we will notify contributing employees and those retirees paying the District directly (vs. through a pension deduction) of any changes.
- Medicare Part B reimbursements will be issued to eligible retirees in December. The 2025 standard Medicare Part B premium is \$185/month, or \$2,220.00 per individual for the calendar year.

New York State and Local Retirement System Invoice

Included in tonight's warrant is the New York State and Local Retirement System invoice for 2026. In order to take advantage of the prepayment discount, the invoice must be paid by 12/15/2025.

The invoice matches the projection previously provided, and is broken down as follows (net of the prepayment discount):

PFRS:	\$3,522,850
ERS:	\$19,010
Total:	\$3,541,860

Note that this amount represents a 12.3% increase in the District's NYSLRS contribution as compared to 2025. This amount does not exceed the budgeted amount of \$3,600,000.

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2025 - FY25 P&L
 January - October 2025

	Actual	Budget	Total over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
Use of Capital Reserve				
Appropriated Fund Balance				
Budget Encumbrances	49,040.90	49,040.90	0.00	100.00%
1001 Real Property Taxes	23,872,423.00	23,872,423.00	0.00	100.00%
2401 Interest Earnings	334,739.58		334,739.58	
2701 Refund of PY Expenditure	14,328.76		14,328.76	
2705 Miscellaneous Income	14,025.00		14,025.00	
2770 Workers Comp - Reimbursement	22,988.72	17,500.00	5,488.72	131.36%
Total Income	\$ 24,293,217.20	\$ 23,938,963.90	\$ 354,253.30	101.48%
Gross Profit	\$ 24,293,217.20	\$ 23,938,963.90	\$ 354,253.30	101.48%
Expenses				
1110.5 Outside Services	7,190.00	10,000.00	(2,810.00)	71.90%
1120.5 Fire Prevention	8,059.81	9,000.00	(940.19)	89.55%
1140.5 Payroll Processing Expense	13,202.16	9,166.70	4,035.46	144.02%
1150.5 Insurance	181,486.18	168,750.00	12,736.18	107.55%
1170.5 Other Miscellaneous Expenses	397.95	10,000.00	(9,602.05)	3.98%
1180.5 Education & Travel	2,828.09	4,166.70	(1,338.61)	67.87%
1200.5 Recruitment		2,789.00	(2,789.00)	0.00%
3010.2 Coats, Boots, Helmets	106,084.20	85,336.00	20,748.20	124.31%
3020.2 Tank Refills, Testing & Rep	18,325.78	16,666.70	1,659.08	109.95%
3030.2 Hoses & Nozzles		16,666.70	(16,666.70)	0.00%
3040.2 Tires	4,645.82	13,333.30	(8,687.48)	34.84%
3050.2 Gasoline, Oil, Grease, Etc.	31,132.79	41,666.70	(10,533.91)	74.72%
3060.2 Fuel & Electric	85,089.60	83,333.00	1,756.60	102.11%
3070.2 Telephone	11,905.40	45,833.30	(33,927.90)	25.98%
3090.2 Certiorari	14,415.41	166,666.70	(152,251.29)	8.65%
3105.4 Uniforms	63,998.40	68,200.00	(4,201.60)	93.84%
3110.4 Shop Equipment & Tools	1,009.84	4,166.70	(3,156.86)	24.24%
3115.4 Emergency Equipment	127,324.54	151,204.90	(23,880.36)	84.21%
3120.4 EMS Supplies and Services	19,505.22	16,666.70	2,838.52	117.03%
3125.4 Computers, Software & Internet	64,416.85	55,166.70	9,250.15	116.77%
3130.4 Office Supplies	5,803.67	6,666.70	(863.03)	87.05%
3135.4 Postage	685.47	1,250.00	(564.53)	54.84%
3140.4 Subscriptions	140.00	1,000.00	(860.00)	14.00%
3145.4 Association Dues	2,226.25	1,750.00	476.25	127.21%
3150.4 Elections & Referendums	335.00	0.00	335.00	
3155.4 Sewer Tax	15,153.18	15,153.18	0.00	100.00%
3160.4 Fire Training	42,279.20	44,000.00	(1,720.80)	96.09%
3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	111,252.76	83,333.30	27,919.46	133.50%

3220.3 Radio Equipment & Maintenance	37,501.68	50,000.00	(12,498.32)	75.00%
3230.3 Ladder & Pump Testing		3,333.30	(3,333.30)	0.00%
3240.3 Bldg/Prop Repairs & Maintenance	117,898.70	166,666.70	(48,768.00)	70.74%
3410.11 Fire Chief salary	201,100.97	191,666.70	9,434.27	104.92%
3410.12 Assistant Fire Chief salary	177,900.95	164,166.70	13,734.25	108.37%
3410.13 Fire Captains salary	838,322.44	750,000.00	88,322.44	111.78%
3410.14 Fire Lieutenants salary	1,186,207.92	1,108,333.30	77,874.62	107.03%
3410.15 Uniformed Firefighters salary	5,479,466.11	5,500,000.00	(20,533.89)	99.63%
3410.16 Maintenance Workers salary	65,297.20	64,166.70	1,130.50	101.76%
3410.17 Mechanics salary	36,547.50	41,666.70	(5,119.20)	87.71%
3410.18 Treasurer/Secy/PT Asst salary	144,701.94	146,833.30	(2,131.36)	98.55%
3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	60,314.52	65,000.00	(4,685.48)	92.79%
3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	18,502.37	17,500.00	1,002.37	105.73%
3410.44 Year-End fees		0.00	0.00	
Total 3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	\$ 18,502.37	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 1,002.37	105.73%
3410.46 Consultants fees	4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	100.00%
3410.465 Consultant Fees- Engineers		0.00	0.00	
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	18,178.74	75,000.00	(56,821.26)	24.24%
Total 3410.46 Consultants fees	\$ 22,678.74	\$ 79,500.00	\$ (56,821.26)	28.53%
3410.49 Payroll Clearing account	(20,657.83)	0.00	(20,657.83)	
3410.81 Disabled Firemen salary -207A's	146,299.34	167,500.00	(21,200.66)	87.34%
3411.1 Holiday Pay	254,098.68	299,930.56	(45,831.88)	84.72%
3412.1 Retroactive Pay	69.44	69.44	0.00	
3413.1 Overtime - Firefighters	790,906.79	1,014,666.70	(223,759.91)	77.95%
3413.12 Overtime- Training	101,806.06	110,000.00	(8,393.94)	92.37%
3413.13 Overtime- Sick Incentive	37,928.47	62,500.00	(24,571.53)	60.69%
3413.14 Overtime- Chiefs	18,757.61	20,833.30	(2,075.69)	90.04%
3413.2 Overtime - Fire Prevention	40,658.82	33,333.30	7,325.52	121.98%
3414.1 EMT Training	17,400.00	20,000.00	(2,600.00)	87.00%
3416.1 Terminal Leave	211,406.08	190,000.00	21,406.08	111.27%
9010.8 NYS Retirement		0.00	0.00	
9020.8 Social Security	731,067.13	716,666.70	14,400.43	102.01%
9030.8 Payroll Tax - MTA	32,654.67	32,352.50	302.17	100.93%
9040.8 Workers Compensation	213,356.00	255,000.00	(41,644.00)	83.67%
9045.8 Life Insurance - Local 916	52,065.18	46,000.00	6,065.18	113.19%
9050.8 Physician / Medical costs	35,242.00	50,000.00	(14,758.00)	70.48%
9060.81 Hospital	3,018,423.47	3,645,000.03	(626,576.56)	82.81%
9060.82 Dental	140,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	100.00%
9060.83 Optical Plan - Local 916	48,800.00	53,000.00	(4,400.00)	91.70%
Total Expenses	\$ 15,195,216.52	\$ 16,316,716.17	\$ (1,121,499.65)	93.13%
Net Operating Income	\$ 9,098,000.68	\$ 7,622,247.73	\$ 1,475,752.95	119.36%
Net Income	\$ 9,098,000.68	\$ 7,622,247.73	\$ 1,475,752.95	119.36%

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2025 Budget - FY25 P&L
 January - December 2025
 Actual as of 11/3/25

	Actual	Appropriated for 2026	Actual + Appropriated	Budget- with Modifications	Total Original Budget	Budget Encumbrances from 2025 & Mods	over Budget	% of Budget
Income								
Use of Capital Reserve	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Appropriated Fund Balance	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Budget Encumbrances	49,040.90		49,040.90	49,040.90	0.00	49,040.90	0.00	100.00%
1001 Real Property Taxes	23,872,423.00		23,872,423.00	23,872,423.00	23,872,423.00	23,872,423.00	0.00	100.00%
2401 Interest Earnings	334,739.58		334,739.58			0.00	334,739.58	
2701 Refund of PY Expenditure	14,328.78		14,328.78			0.00	14,328.78	
2705 Miscellaneous Income	14,025.00		14,025.00			0.00	14,025.00	
2770 Workers Comp - Reimb	22,988.72		22,988.72	21,000.00	21,000.00	21,000.00	1,988.72	109.47%
Total Income	\$ 24,307,545.96	\$ -	\$ 24,307,545.96	\$ 23,942,463.90	\$ 23,893,423.00	\$ 23,942,463.90	\$ 365,082.06	101.52%
Gross Profit	\$ 24,307,545.96	\$ -	\$ 24,307,545.96	\$ 23,942,463.90	\$ 23,893,423.00		\$ 365,082.06	101.52%
Expenses								
1110.4 Archiving Services & Exp	0.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1110.5 Outside Services	7,190.00		7,190.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	(4,810.00)	59.92%
1120.5 Fire Prevention	8,059.81		8,059.81	9,000.00	9,000.00	0.00	(940.19)	89.55%
1140.5 Payroll Processing Exp	14,210.52		14,210.52	11,000.00	11,000.00	0.00	3,210.52	129.19%
1150.5 Insurance	181,486.18		181,486.18	225,000.00	225,000.00	0.00	(43,513.82)	80.66%
1170.5 Other Miscellaneous Expenses	397.95		397.95	12,000.00	12,000.00	0.00	(11,602.05)	3.32%
1180.5 Education & Travel	2,828.09		2,828.09	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	(2,171.91)	56.56%
1200.5 Recruitment			0.00	3,346.82	5,000.00	(1,663.18)	(3,346.82)	0.00%
3010.2 Coats, Boots, Helmets	106,084.20		106,084.20	97,836.00	75,000.00	22,836.00	8,248.20	108.43%
3020.2 Tank Refills, Testing & Rep	18,325.78		18,325.78	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	(1,674.22)	91.63%
3030.2 Hoses & Nozzles			0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	(20,000.00)	0.00%
3040.2 Tires	4,645.82		4,645.82	16,000.00	16,000.00	0.00	(11,354.18)	29.04%
3050.2 Gasoline, Oil, Grease, Etc.	31,132.79		31,132.79	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	(18,867.21)	62.27%
3060.2 Fuel & Electric	85,089.60		85,089.60	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	(14,910.40)	85.09%
3070.2 Telephone	11,905.40		11,905.40	55,000.00	55,000.00	0.00	(43,094.60)	21.65%
3090.2 Certiorari	14,415.41		14,415.41	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.00	(185,584.59)	7.21%
3105.4 Uniforms	63,998.40		63,998.40	76,000.00	76,000.00	0.00	(12,001.60)	84.21%
3110.4 Shop Equipment & Tools	1,009.84		1,009.84	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	(3,990.16)	20.20%

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2025 Budget - FY25 P&L
 January - December 2025
 Actual as of 11/3/25

	Actual	Appropriated for 2026	Actual + Appropriated	Budget- with Modifications	Total	Budget Encumbrances from 2025 & Mods	over Budget	% of Budget
					Original Budget			
3115.4 Emergency Equipment	127,324.54		127,324.54	178,204.90	150,000.00	26,204.90	(48,880.36)	72.26%
3120.4 EMS Supplies and Services	19,505.22		19,505.22	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	(494.78)	97.53%
3125.4 Computers, Software & Internet	64,416.85		64,416.85	66,200.00	66,200.00	0.00	(1,783.15)	97.31%
3130.4 Office Supplies	5,803.67		5,803.67	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	(2,196.33)	72.55%
3135.4 Postage	685.47		685.47	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	(814.53)	45.70%
3140.4 Subscriptions	140.00		140.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	0.00	(1,060.00)	11.67%
3145.4 Association Dues	2,226.25		2,226.25	2,000.00	1,500.00	500.00	226.25	111.31%
3150.4 Elections & Referendums	335.00		335.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	0.00	(10,165.00)	3.16%
3155.4 Sewer Tax	15,153.18		15,153.18	15,153.18	14,000.00	1,153.18	0.00	100.00%
3160.4 Fire Training	42,279.20		42,279.20	44,000.00	44,000.00	0.00	(1,720.80)	96.06%
3210.3 Vehicle Maintenance	111,252.76		111,252.76	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00	11,252.76	111.25%
3220.3 Radio Equipment & Maintenance	37,501.68		37,501.68	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	(22,498.32)	62.50%
3230.3 Ladder & Pump Testing			0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	(4,000.00)	0.00%
3240.3 Bldg/Prop Repairs & Maintenance	117,896.70		117,896.70	200,000.00	200,000.00	0.00	(82,103.30)	58.95%
3410.11 Fire Chief salary	201,100.97		201,100.97	230,000.00	230,000.00	0.00	(28,899.03)	87.44%
3410.12 Assistant Fire Chief Salary	177,900.95		177,900.95	197,000.00	197,000.00	0.00	(19,099.05)	90.31%
3410.13 Fire Captains salary	838,322.44		838,322.44	900,000.00	900,000.00	0.00	(61,677.56)	93.15%
3410.14 Fire Lieutenants salary	1,186,207.92		1,186,207.92	1,330,000.00	1,330,000.00	0.00	(143,792.08)	89.19%
3410.15 Uniformed Firefighters salary	5,479,466.11		5,479,466.11	6,800,000.00	6,800,000.00	0.00	(1,120,533.89)	83.02%
3410.16 Maintenance Workers salary	65,297.20		65,297.20	77,000.00	77,000.00	0.00	(11,702.80)	84.80%
3410.17 Mechanics salary	36,547.50		36,547.50	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	(13,452.50)	73.10%
3410.18 Treasurer/Secy/PT Asst salary	144,701.94		144,701.94	176,200.00	176,200.00	0.00	(31,498.06)	82.12%
3410.2 Fire Equipment and Capital Outlay	60,314.52	500,000.00	560,314.52	630,000.00	630,000.00	0.00	(69,685.48)	9.57%
3410.42 Accountants / Auditors fees	18,502.37		18,502.37	17,500.00	17,500.00	0.00	1,002.37	105.73%
3410.46 Consultants fees	4,500.00		4,500.00	4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00	0.00	100.00%

Eastchester, NY Fire District
Budget vs. Actuals: FY2025 Budget - FY25 P&L
 January - December 2025
 Actual as of 11/3/25

	Actual	Appropriated for 2026	Actual + Appropriated	Budget- with Modifications	Total Original Budget	Budget Encumbrances from 2025 & Mods	over Budget	% of Budget
3410.465 Consultant Fees- Engineers			0.00	95,500.00	100,000.00	(4,500.00)	(95,500.00)	0.00%
3410.47 Professional Consultants fees	18,178.74		18,178.74	90,000.00	90,000.00	0.00	(71,821.26)	20.20%
3410.48 Labor Consultants			0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total 3410.46 Consultants fees	\$ 22,678.74	\$ -	\$ 22,678.74	\$ 190,000.00	\$ 190,000.00	\$ -	\$ (167,321.26)	11.94%
3410.49 Payroll Clearing account	14,178.66		14,178.66			0.00	14,178.66	
3410.81 Disabled Firemen salary -207A's	146,299.34		146,299.34	201,000.00	201,000.00	0.00	(54,700.66)	72.78%
3411.1 Holiday Pay	254,098.68		254,098.68	604,930.56	605,000.00	(69.44)	(350,831.88)	42.00%
3412.1 Retroactive Salary	69.44		69.44	69.44		69.44	0.00	
3413.1 Overtime - Firefighters	790,906.79		790,906.79	1,250,000.00	1,250,000.00	0.00	(459,093.21)	63.27%
3413.12 Overtime- Training	101,606.06		101,606.06	150,000.00	150,000.00	0.00	(48,393.94)	67.74%
3413.13 Overtime- Sick Incentive	37,928.47		37,928.47	75,000.00	100,000.00	(25,000.00)	(37,071.53)	50.57%
3413.14 Overtime- Chiefs	18,757.61		18,757.61	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00	(6,242.39)	75.03%
3413.2 Overtime - Fire Prevention	40,658.82		40,658.82	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.00	658.82	101.65%
3414.1 EMT Training	17,400.00		17,400.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	0.00	(2,600.00)	87.00%
3416.1 Terminal Leave	211,406.08		211,406.08	400,000.00	400,000.00	0.00	(188,593.92)	52.85%
9010.8 NYS Retirement			0.00	3,600,000.00	3,600,000.00	0.00	(3,600,000.00)	0.00%
9020.8 Social Security	731,067.13		731,067.13	860,000.00	860,000.00	0.00	(128,932.87)	85.01%
9030.8 Payroll Tax - MTA	32,654.67		32,654.67	38,823.00	38,823.00	0.00	(6,168.33)	84.11%
9040.8 Workers Compensation	213,356.00		213,356.00	255,000.00	255,000.00	0.00	(41,644.00)	83.67%
9045.8 Life Insurance - Local 916	52,065.18		52,065.18	46,000.00	46,000.00	0.00	6,065.18	113.19%
9050.8 Physician / Medical costs	35,242.00		35,242.00	60,000.00	60,000.00	0.00	(24,758.00)	58.74%
9060.81 Hospital	2,997,861.40		2,997,861.40	4,100,000.00	4,100,000.00	0.00	(1,102,138.60)	73.12%
9060.82 Dental	140,000.00		140,000.00	140,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	100.00%
9060.83 Optical Plan - Local 916	48,600.00		48,600.00	53,000.00	53,000.00	0.00	(4,400.00)	91.70%
Total Expenses	\$ 15,210,499.30	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 15,691,741.69	\$ 23,942,463.90	\$ 23,893,423.00	\$ 24,040.90		63.53%
Net Operating Income	\$ 9,097,046.66	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 8,615,804.27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,615,804.27	
Net Income			\$ 8,615,804.27	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		

NOTES:

Treasurer Hedstrom advised that there will be a waiting period until after the end of the year before finalizing any remaining budget transfers needed to close out the 2025 fiscal year.

She reported that health insurance costs came in as expected . Hedstrom also addressed procuring dental insurance for four non-union employees who previously received dental coverage through the union plan. She explained that while tonight’s motion revises a previous motion for reimbursing the employees for COBRA payments, the district should also begin exploring its own dental insurance plan. Hedstrom contacted BST regarding dental plans, with tax implications and cafeteria plan considerations. BST connected her with a broker who specializes in municipal insurance. Following a discussion this morning, Hedstrom advised it appears feasible to obtain comparable dental coverage, potentially through MetLife. She noted that the district cannot secure a plan directly through MetLife due to the small number of employees, but the broker may be able to do so.

Hedstrom asked whether the Board is open to pursuing a quote so she can continue the process and provide comparable options for consideration.

Chairman Ranellone introduced a motion to authorize Treasurer Hedstrom to work with the broker to obtain the necessary information.

Motion by Commr. Yankowski, seconded by Commr. Lore

Aye: Commr. Yankowski, Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Carlo, Chairman Ranellone

Final: Motion Carried

Treasurer Hedstrom thanked the board and clarified that the broker is with the Reese group.

Presentation – Calgi Construction Group (Station 3)

Chairman Ranellone invited representatives from Calgi Construction Group to present information regarding Station 3.

Mr. Calgi reported that he has been in discussions with Chief Tween concerning project options and future direction. He explained that Calgi Construction has provided a preliminary proposal for work moving forward with the architect and related studies. Because the full scope of work is not yet defined, it is difficult at this stage to provide firm cost estimates. He noted that significant review of the existing building is required. The Board previously received a proposal from Highland Associates, and Mr. Calgi advised that a survey will help determine the extent of necessary work. At this point, in order to proceed, the Board will need to select Highland Associates, or another firm, to conduct a study.

Chairman Ranellone stated that, since Highland Associates has already surveyed the site, they may be the most appropriate firm. He asked what additional steps would be required. Chief Tween then asked the Board for input, suggesting a straw poll regarding the direction of the project: whether three commissioners favor demolishing Station 3 or prefer attempting to renovate the existing structure.

As Mr. Calgi previously discussed with Chief Tween, the station requires extensive work. Chief Tween commented that at some point, renovation may reach diminishing returns, and constructing a new facility could be more cost-effective and provide a longer-lasting solution, particularly if the District aims to build a “firehouse of the future.” Chairman Ranellone expressed his opinion that the station should be completely demolished and rebuilt. Mr. Calgi also acknowledged that the Station 3 site is tight. Chairman Ranellone noted the need to house several engines, a ladder truck, and at least one or two additional support vehicles.

Mr. Calgi summarized the work needed at Station 3 following his tour of the building and discussions with Chief Tween. These included ADA compliance concerns, and noted that several required renovations would be costly. He emphasized that a complete study is necessary before any final decision can be made.

Chairman Ranellone asked the Board for its thoughts on the project. Commr. Yankowski expressed agreement with Chairman Ranellone's position. Commr. Carlo cautioned that the Board's direction is dependent on the outcome of a future bond vote. He noted that the Board must also consider worst case scenarios, such as addressing only the floor or undertaking partial work, if the bond does not pass. He stated that the Board cannot assume the project will move forward without voter approval.

Chief Tween clarified that the document received from Highland Associates was a description of services, not a proposal. He explained that Highland Associates would send engineers to evaluate the building, and this evaluation could cover either the entire structure or specific sections, based on the Board's direction. Their assessment would be based on the existing architectural drawings and the areas assigned for review.

Commr. Carlo asked for clarification on the process moving forward. Commr. Lore asked whether the Board was making a decision to rebuild.

Chief Tween clarified that the immediate question was whether to proceed with an evaluation of the building by Highland Associates engineers. Mr. Calgi affirmed that the Fire District has a number of issues that need to be addressed.

Commr. Lore stated that both the Town and the Village should be part of the overall project. He expressed concerns about potential increases in property taxes. Commr. Lore stressed that he wants the public to come out and be involved in the process.

Chief Tween noted that any funding decision would require a public vote, so residents would have the final say. Commr. Lore agreed but reiterated that he wants a full room, more engagement, as there was no sense of rushing into a decision.

Chief Tween explained that the reason the District is moving forward at this time is because the building's floor is becoming compromised. Commr. Lore continued to express his desire for the public to fully understand the process and timeline.

A discussion followed between Chairman Ranellone and Commr. Lore regarding the project timeline.

Mr. Calgi stated that Commissioner Lore's comments made a strong argument for conducting the study, as it would provide information to present to the public. Commr. Lore referenced past instances of public backlash and asked Chief Tween whether he remembered when the

school had proposed building a new gym; Chief Tween replied that he did not recall the incident.

Mr. Calgi noted that he had experienced similar situations in the past and advised that obtaining information is necessary so that the Board can inform the public. Chief Tween explained that the next step, if approved, would be to engage Highland Associates for a formal quote. The Board agreed that Chief Tween may engaged with them.

Chief Report

Chief Tween presented the following report:

Alarm Activity: 358

Fire: 7

EMS/Rescue: 192

Mutual Aid: None given or received in October

- 1) The three probationary firefighters in the Career Fire Academy are doing well. The probationary firefighters will graduate in mid-January.
- 2) Hank Henninger's mechanic report for October was emailed to the Board on 11/13/2025.
- 3) Tim Dalton's maintenance report for October was emailed to the Board on 11/13/2025.
- 4) Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement activities continue with numerous plan reviews and inspections. The Fire Prevention reports for October were emailed to the Board on 11/5/2025. October was Fire Prevention month and Captain Thomas Pintavalle and the members conducted fire safety demonstrations for over 1,500 students at the local schools.
- 5) I want to thank the members of L-916 for their participation in the October Halloween events. The District sends an engine with on-duty members, but the off-duty firefighters participation in handing out candy and entertaining the young residents helped make the Eastchester Town Hall Truck or Treat, the Tuckahoe Creepy Candy Crawl, and the Greenvalle Elementary School Trunk or Treat even more successful. Thank you to all the members that participated.
- 6) Currently there are two members are out on long term absence.
- 7) Myself and Assistant Chief Yozzo are currently onboarding the new incident reporting software Alpine RedAlert. This software will replace the current Zoll FireRMS software which is sunsetting on 1/1/26. We hope to have training sessions in early December and begin using it for NERIS incident reporting by mid-December.
- 8) The members had an opportunity to utilize the vacant house next door to Fire HQ for training evolutions. Forty-six members were able to take advantage of this realistic training opportunity which provided a safe way for the members to prepare for real world scenarios on the fireground. Thank you to property owner Angelo Agovino of Eastchester Manor Developers LLC. for allowing the District to use the vacant house. Thank you also to the officers, especially Assistant Chief Yozzo, Captain Dan Olivier, and Lieutenants Domenick DiRienzo and Frank Greenbaum for coordinating the training evolutions. Members were able to stretch hose lines,

conduct searches, react to a Mayday/FF down situation, used the tower ladder to access and cut ventilation holes in the roof, incident command training, etc. The members provided positive feedback after the training evolutions. I would like to thank the Board for providing the funding for that training.

9) As the holidays are approaching, I have a few safety reminders for the residents. Please use caution when cooking holiday dinners and keep candles out of the reach of pets and children. Do not park cars and trucks on leaf piles as vehicle catalytic converters get very hot and can catch the leaves on fire. Do not obstruct fire hydrants with leaf or snow piles. Never use a power strip for a space heater as it cannot handle the higher amperage used by the heater.

MONTHLY DISTRICT SECRETARY REPORT

NOVEMBER 2025

FIRE DISTRICT ELECTION

- Fire District Election materials are available on the Eastchester Fire District website (EastchesterNYFD.gov)
- At this time we have ONE candidate officially on the ballot.
- Thank you to the Election Inspectors who have expressed interest in working at our election. We are still in need of election inspectors, and another request will be sent shortly.
- As a reminder, Candidates for district office shall file written petitions subscribed by at least 25 qualified voters with the Secretary of the Fire District at 255 Main St, Eastchester, New York, no later than November 19, 2025 by 4:00 pm. Petition forms shall be made available by the Secretary upon request or can be found on the Eastchester Fire District website (EastchesterNYFD.gov) .
- Lastly, if voting by absentee ballot, please note the following: December 2, 2025 is the last day to submit an application for an absentee ballot if the ballot is to be mailed. December 8, 2025 is the last day to receive application for absentee ballots if it is delivered personally to the voter or his/her agent. On Election Day, which is December 9, 2025, absentee ballots must be received at Fire Headquarters (255 Main Street, Eastchester) no later than 5:00 PM.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Website and Notices

- Ongoing updates to the website.
- Beginning work on the Eastchester Fire District annual report for 2025.

FOIL OFFICER

- **October Activity:** Received 1 FOIL request

RECORDS MANAGEMENT OFFICER

- **Ongoing Projects:** Continued work on organizing loose records and scanning projects.

OFFICE - GENERAL

- Prepared the OML document for the November meeting.
 - Updated and posted minutes on the website.
 - Updated the 2025 resolutions spreadsheet.
 - Performed regular office tasks including scheduling, billing, customer service, and staff support.
-

Business Office Recommendations

7.1 - Payment of Bills

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves to pay the bills and vouchers as presented. The Board has been supplied with one set of bills and one credit card bill. Chief Tween has reviewed all prior to the meeting, except certiorari claims and those specifically marked as reviewed by the Treasurer. The Treasurer has requested the Board approve the following:

Warrant 1- 11/13/2025 - \$3,897,766.12

Credit Card – 11/18/25 - \$1,484.53

Total: \$3,899,250.65

Motion by Commr. Carlo, seconded by Commr. Lore

Aye: Commr. Yankowski, Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Carlo, Chairman.

Ranellone

Final: Motion Carried

Future Meeting Dates

December 11, 2025 - Regular Meeting - Eastchester Town Hall - Courtroom

Local 916 – Comments

Union President Joseph Costanzo thanked the Board for the training days, noting it was beneficial for all members. He reported that the Toys for Tots drive is underway, with bins at all firehouses,

and highlighted the union's pride in being Westchester's largest toy collector. He also thanked Chairman Ranellone for his five years of service, and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Chairman Ranellone noted he attended both training sessions and found them to be a great experience.

Comments from the Public

Ray Rooney - 8 Channing Pl, Eastchester

Mr. Rooney thanked the Town Board for allowing Fire District meetings to be held at Town Hall. He noted that the Fire District election will take place on December 9th, with one commissioner seat open, and stated that he believes this presents an opportunity to restore integrity to the Board.

Mr. Rooney expressed concerns about a 36% increase in the District's budget, thus property taxes, over the past five years. He stated that recent policies have restricted public comment and limited public access to fire stations, including new requirements for Board approval before community rooms can be used. He also voiced disapproval of the recent renovations at Station 4, stating that issues remain despite the work completed. In his view, there have been structural integrity concerns at the stations, and he urged the Board to reassess.

Mr. Rooney further stated that the Board has not allocated sufficient resources to ensure a safe, hazard-free environment for members. He expressed concern regarding the plans for replacing Station 3. He added that, in his opinion, neither the current Board nor past Boards have supported volunteer firefighters over the last two decades.

Mr. Rooney encouraged members of the public to participate in the upcoming election and stated that voting is their opportunity to effect change.

Kenneth Simonides - 143 Anderson, Scarsdale

Mr. Simonides echoed Mr. Rooney's concerns and referenced a \$4,000 expenditure at Chester Heights to address an issue involving two ADA bathrooms that were improperly pitched by the contractor. He expressed disapproval of how the matter was handled, specifically by Chairman Ranellone, and questioned why taxpayers were responsible for costs he believes was from the contractors errors. He and Chairman Ranellone discussed oversight during the Station 4 renovations, including ADA compliance.

Mr. Simonides also referenced a prior \$38,000 expenditure that he felt was inappropriate, stating it had been used to investigate him, and expressed that this was a misuse of taxpayer funds. He stated

that the Board should be ashamed of the situation and added that, in his view, Chairman Ranellone should not run for re-election.

Secretary Isang notified the Board there was an overlooked item that was not included originally in the agenda, involving payments for the COBRA payments, revising a previous resolution made on July 10, 2025:

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Board of Fire Commissioners approves the Treasurer to pay MetLife Dental directly for the COBRA costs for the 4 Employees that were designated as one of the 5 non-IAFF Local 916 District Employees covered under the current dental benefit offered effective July 31, 2025 at a total cost of no more than \$200 per month per member for a period not exceed 18 months:

Motion by Commr. Carlo, seconded by Commr. Yankowski
Aye: Commr. Yankowski, Commr. Cerasi, Commr. Lore, Commr. Carlo, Chairman. Ranellone
Final: Motion Carried

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Lore asked Chief Tween about the status of the POW flag at Station 2. Chief Tween explained that there had been an issue with the flag holders, but that they are working to fix it.

Mike Parisi - 16 Lockwood Avenue

Mr. Parisi stated that the Board should invite representatives from the Town and Village to the next meeting so they are informed about firehouse matters, including construction at Station 3. He noted that firehouses are currently not open to the public and asked whether they would be open for voting. He also asked where residents should go to vote in the upcoming Fire District election.

Secretary Isang explained where voters could find information about their polling locations and advised that residents may call headquarters or visit the District's website with any questions. Commissioner Lore asked why there was no polling location in Chester Heights. A discussion followed regarding election site locations. Secretary Isang noted that the Board had already voted on this year's locations but stated she could research the possibility of adding additional sites for next year.

Mr. Parisi reiterated that the Board should invite Town and Village representatives to a Fire District meeting to learn about upcoming capital projects.

Tony Fiore

Mr. Fiore suggested that when a formal presentation is ready, the Board should hold a special meeting with the Village of Bronxville to update them on firehouse issues. Chief Tween agreed with the suggestion.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

**EASTCHESTER FIRE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE EASTCHESTER BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
NOVEMBER 13, 2025**

Minutes prepared by:
Marissa “Isang” Smith
Secretary to the Board of Fire Commissioners

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