

Regular Meeting

January 13, 2026

Chairman Paul Wilders called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Merrick Fire District to order at 8:00 PM. Those present were; Commissioner Brian Ellensohn, Commissioner Scott Rockwin, and Commissioner Paul Wilders. Also present were; District Treasurer Patrick Cunningham, District Attorney Joseph Pusateri, and District Clerk David Ward.

A salute to the flag led by Commissioner Rockwin.

A motion by Commissioner Ellensohn, seconded by Commissioner Rockwin, unanimously passed to accept the following reports: (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

The Treasurers' reports emailed to all Commissioner from Treasurer Patrick Cunningham.

The Minutes from the Board Chiefs, and Board Business dated December 9, 2025.

The Minutes from the Special Meeting dated December 16, 2025.

The Minutes from the Special Meeting dated December 30, 2025.

The Minutes from the Re-Org Meeting dated January 4, 2026.

The Minutes from the Interim Meeting dated January 6, 2026.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:

At this time all correspondence was read; any requiring further action will be handled under new business.

An email from the Grant Guys.

An email from Health and Safety Specialists.

A letter from the Town of Hempstead Water District.

A letter from Firefly Admin.

2 letters from Hubbinette & Cowel Associates.

A letter from Glatfelter Claims Management.

A letter from National Grid.

An invite to the Bellmore Fire Department Installation Dinner.

A letter from the Volunteer & Exempt Firemen's Benevolent Association of North Merrick, N. Y.

A letter from Kevin O'Hara.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

David Ward reported the status of 2 new applications.

Lost and Damaged Reports:

David Ward reported on work orders.

Local Government and Community Relations(AC):

Commissioner Wilders reported progress.

Building(BE,SR,JR):

Commissioner Rockwin reported on the building.

A discussion was held on repairs to the ceiling in the truck room.

Chief's and District Vehicles (BE,SR, PW):

Commissioner Rockwin reported the following;

Upgrades and repairs to the 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe (replacement unit 6799)

Repairs to the 2018 Chevrolet Tahoe.

Equipment (BE,SR):

David Ward reported on equipment.

Fire Department Personnel (JM,JR,PW):

A discussion was held on personnel.

Recruitment & Retention (BE, PW):

Commissioner Ellensohn reported on recruitment and retention.

Uniforms (BE,PW):

Commissioner Wilders reported on uniform equipment.

David Ward reported on the approved uniform equipment for 2 members.

Fire Apparatus and Ambulance Repairs (BE, SR, PW):

Commissioner Rockwin reported the following:

Repairs to the 1999 Spartan (unit 674).

Repairs to the 2008 Spartan (unit 678).

Utilities (BE, PW):

Commissioner Wilders reported on utilities.

Auditing (PC):

Patrick Cunningham gave his report..
David Ward reported on the New York State Office of the State Comptroller Audit.

Legal (JP):

At this time 20:30 PM, Joseph Pusateri requested the Board go into Executive Session to discuss matters of personnel. A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Wilders unanimously approved to go into Executive Session, and returned at 2055.

(Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

Joseph Pusateri reported on a draft copy of the sexual abuse and misconduct prevention policy.

Insurance (JM, JR):

David Ward reported on insurances.
Commissioner Rockwin reported on insurance.

Computers and Web Site (BE,PW):

Commissioner Wilders reported on computers and the website.

Training (Fire and Administrative) (PW):

Commissioner Wilders reported on training.

Four Towns (JM,PW):

Commissioner Wilders reported on the Four Towns Training Center.

Radio (JM,SR):

Commissioner Rockwin reported on radios.

Purchasing Policies & Procedures (SR,JR):

Commissioner Rockwin reported on purchasing.

Medical Equipment (JM, JR):

Commissioner Rogers reported on medical equipment.

District Employees (C.O.B, PW):

Commissioner Rockwin reported on District Employees.

District Policies and Procedures (AC):

Patrick Cunningham reported on district policies.

Inventory Control (SR,JR):

David Ward reported the following changes to inventory;
GMI PS 2000 meter, reached end of life, not cost effective to repair, replaced, s/n 01496.

EMS Boots size 8 W, 9 s/n 150270801085,1075 soles rotted off discarded

Gas detector GMI PS2000 s/n 376301, not repairable, replaced with new

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved to dispose of inventory as listed above; (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Rogers – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

Installation Dinner (AC):

David Ward reported on the Installation Dinner.

Length of Service Awards Program (BE, JM,):

Commissioner Ellensohn reported on the Length of Service Awards Program. David Ward reported on the 2025 Length of Service Awards Program.

EMS Certifications and Ambulance Narcotics (C.O.B, JR):

Commissioner Wilders reported progress.

EMS Cost Recovery (BE, JR, PW):

Patrick Cunningham reported on EMS Cost Recovery.

Old Business:

New Business:

A motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved the training agreement from Kevin O'Hara in the amount of \$3900.00. (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

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A motion by Commissioner McCauley, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved to \$ 173,281.67 from NY Class to Flushing bank for the final payment of the 2019 Pierce Ladder Truck Lease. (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved the parts purchase for repairs to the class B Hose tender from Moonlight garage in the amount of \$3,000.00. Labor for this repair is additional, this cost is for parts only. (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved the purchase of blinds, from the Blindspot, for the hall in the amount of \$20,000. Labor for this repair is additional, this cost is for parts only. (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved the gym membership up to 40 North Merrick Fire Department members in the amount of \$ 7,500.00 from Crunch Fitness Bellmore. (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

A motion by Commissioner Ellensohn, seconded by Commissioner Wilders unanimously approved the enclosed permissive referendum (page 6). (Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

A motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Wilders unanimously approved the following purchase requisitions;

(Commissioner Ellensohn – yes, Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes).

South Shore Fire & Safety \$ 898.00

Precision Art Ltd \$ 775.00 (In addition to the previously approved \$2565.

(8/12/2025)= \$3340.00 Total

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted

David M. Ward

District Clerk



North Merrick Fire District

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS

2095 Camp Avenue, North Merrick, N.Y. 11566

(516) 223-4102 • FAX (516) 223-4105

Notice of Permissive Referendum

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Merrick Fire District in the Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, New York, at a regular business meeting held on the 13th day of January, 2026, duly adopted the following resolution, subject to a permissive referendum.

Resolution # 1

A resolution authorizing the Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Merrick Fire District in the Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, New York to expend monies from the vehicle capital reserve account to purchase one (1) ambulance and related emergency equipment, upon such terms, specification and conditions as the Board of Fire Commissioners may determine. Said costs shall not exceed \$ 350,000. (Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars).

Be it resolved by Board of Fire Commissioners of the North Merrick Fire District in the Town of Hempstead, County of Nassau, New York as follows:

Section 1. Pursuant to section 6 – G subdivision 7 of the General Municipal Law, the monies authorized for this expenditure shall be paid from the Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund.

By order of the Board of Fire Commissioners
North Merrick Fire District.
David M. Ward District Clerk
January 13, 2026