

Regular Meeting

July 14, 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, Commissioner James Rogers and Commissioner Paul Wilders. Also present were; District Attorney Joseph Pusateri, District Secretary Katie O'Leary, and District Clerk David Ward.

A salute to the flag led by Commissioner Rogers.

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

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

The Minutes Interim Meeting dated July 6, 2026.

The Minutes from the Board Business Meeting dated June 10, 2026.

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS:

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

An email from Adam Oustatcher from Hannum, Feretic, Prendergast & Merlino LLC.

Two estimates for repairs from All Weather Heating and Cooling.

Two estimates for software renewal/upgrade from American Communications.

Two request for Travel from David Ward and Katie O'Leary.

A letter from US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand.

A letter from Congresswoman Laura Gillen.

A letter from OceanFirst Bank.

A subpoena from New York Supreme Court of Nassau County.

Two estimates from CAS HVAC.

An email from Firefly Admin.

A request for hall use from Mrs. Andrea Alphonse, North Merrick Girl Scout Troop

number 2313.

APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP:

David Ward reported the status of new applications for membership.

Lost and Damaged Reports:

David Ward reported on work orders.

Local Government and Community Relations(AC):

Commissioner Wilders reported progress.

David Ward reported on the FEMA Grant Audit.

David Ward reported on the New York State Office of the State Comptroller Audit.

Building(BE,SR,JR):

Commissioner Rockwin reported on the building.

David Ward reported on building air conditioning repairs.

Commissioner Ellensohn reported on a building sign.

Commissioner Wilders and Commissioner Rogers reported on repairs to the truck room and truck room floor.

Commissioner Ellensohn reported on the mirror in the mens' bathroom and the mirror in the hall. Commissioner Wilders reported he will get copies of quotes for repair/replacement.

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

Commissioner Rockwin reported the following;

The new 2026 Chevrolet Tahoe and associated equipment.

The 2013 Chevrolet Tahoe (unit 6799).

Commissioner Rockwin reported on the command box for the new 2026 Chevrolet Tahoe.

Commissioner Rogers reported on the replacement van (unit 6711).

Equipment (BE,SR):

David Ward reported all issued equipment was returned from the resigned former member.

David Ward reported the gear fitting will be held on Monday August 3, 2026 at 7 PM.

David Ward reported on the repairs/replacement of the deck gun for the 2010 Spartan (unit 672).

Commissioner Ellensohn reported on the new propane burn off kit for unit 678.

Fire Department Personnel (JM,JR,PW):

A discussion was held on personnel.

Commissioner Rogers reported 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 uniform equipment is ordered.

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

Commissioner Rockwin reported the following:
Repairs to the 2004 Spartan (unit 671) by Hendrickson Truck.
Repairs to the 2010 Spartan (unit 672) by Hendrickson Truck.
Repairs to the 2014 Ford E-450 (unit 677) by Jerry's Car Care
Repairs to the 2021 Chevrolet Tahoe (unit 6701) by Jerry's Care Car.

Utilities (BE, PW):

Commissioner Wilders reported on utilities.

Auditing (PC):

David Ward report on the New York State Office of the State Comptroller audit.

Legal (JP):

At this time 2115 Joseph Pusateri requested the Board into Executive Session to discuss matters of personnel. A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved to go into Executive Session, and returned at 2200.

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

Insurance (JM, JR):

Commissioner Rogers reported on insurances.
David Ward reported on the meeting with Salerno Brokerage on Tuesday August 11th at 7 PM.

Computers and Web Site (BE,PW):

Commissioner Ellensohn 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, next meeting Wednesday July 15th at 7 PM at the Training Facility.

Radio (JM,SR):

Commissioner Rockwin reported on radios.
Commissioner Rockwin reported he will begin to work on obtaining quotes for the radio equipment for the new 2026 Chevrolet Tahoe (Chiefs vehicle).
David Ward reported on the portable radio batteries being replaced under warranty.

Purchasing Policies & Procedures (SR,JR):

Commissioner Wilders reported on purchasing.

Medical Equipment (JM, JR):

Commissioner Rogers reported on medical equipment.

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

Commissioner Wilders reported on District Employees.

District Policies and Procedures (AC):

David Ward reported on account transfers.

Inventory Control (SR, JR):

David Ward reported the following changes to inventory;

Scott Protégé ZM CO meter, reached end of life, discarded s/n SC23440312

A motion by Commissioner Rogers, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved to dispose of the above listed inventory as described.

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

Installation Dinner (AC):

Commissioner Wilders 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 email form Firefly Admin.

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

Commissioner Ellensohn reported progress.

A discussion was held on the New York State Department of Health sticker for the 2024 F 450 Ambulance (unit 679). It was decided David Ward will contact Kevin O'Hara to find out the status of the sticker.

EMS Cost Recovery (BE, JR, PW):

Commissioner Rogers reported on EMS cost recovery.

Old Business:

Engine Company One replacement Engine

New Business:

A motion by Commissioner Wilders, seconded by Commissioner Rogers unanimously approved to accept the resignation of Francesca Failla.

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

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved the quote # 1543 for emergency repairs to the HVAC system from CAS HVAC in the hall in the amount of \$ 24,255.36.

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

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Ellensohn unanimously approved the quote # 1543 for emergency repairs to the HVAC system from CAS HVAC in the kitchen and training room in the amount of \$ 43,511.41.

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

A motion by Commissioner Ellensohn, seconded by Commissioner Rogers unanimously approved the purchase of a replacement adjustable deck gun from Hendrickson Truck for the 2010 Spartan (unit 672) in the amount of \$ 5557.30.

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

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Rogers unanimously approved the travel request from David Ward, Katie O'Leary and Paul Wilders to attend the Association of Fire Districts of New York State in Saratoga Springs New York from October 7th to October 10, 2026.

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

A motion by Commissioner Rockwin, seconded by Commissioner Rogers approved the purchase of a replacement Engine Company # 1, a Spartan 2000 gpm engine on Sourcewell bid contract # 113021-Rvg-4 customer number 241431, From Hendrickson Fire Rescue Equipment, in the amount of \$ 1,657,047.00 plus any change orders, as per the signed contract.

(Commissioner Ellensohn – (abstained), Commissioner Rockwin – yes, Commissioner Rogers – yes, Commissioner Wilders - yes)

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted
David M. Ward
District Clerk