

TOWNSHIP OF BURLINGTON BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS FIRE DISTRICT NO. 1

Regular Meeting Minutes: February 25, 2026 - 7pm

OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT: The New Jersey Open Public Meeting, N.J.S.A 10:46-6 seq., was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meetings of public bodies at which any business affecting their interest is discussed or acted upon.

In accordance with provisions of the Act, the Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District No. 1, Township of Burlington has caused notice of this meeting to be published by having the date, time, place and agenda to the extent known thereof posted as follows:

Published in the Burlington County Times January 2026 (Official Newspaper)
Forwarded to the Courier Post January 2026 (Informational Purposes Only)
Posted on the Bulletin Board at the Township Municipal Building January 2026
Fire District Website

Meeting Called to Order:

Comm. Painter called the February 25, 2026, regular meeting of the Board of Fire Commissioners to order at 7pm.

Roll Call: Present: Comm. Painter, Comm. Johnson, Comm. Ciasca and Comm. Scully
Absent: Comm. Field

Correspondence:

1. Bureau of Fire Prevention January 2026 receipts memorandum.
2. Thank you letter from Councilman D. Carducci re: Appreciation dinner.

Appointments/Oath of Office:

There were no appointments/oath of office.

New Members:

There were no new members received.

Administrator's Report:

Adm. Fazekas submitted his report as follows:

- The new fire official contract has been prepared by our solicitor and reviewed by me. We will discuss it in closed session to make sure that everyone agrees with the contract, before we formally provide it to the new fire official. If everything is approved by the Board, the new fire official's start date will be 3/16/26 with swearing in at the 3/25/26 regular meeting. I sent an email to Sta. 301 officers regarding the use of the 1st. floor office for career lieutenants, after I reviewed the 2004 lease agreement. The shuffling of offices will still meet the terms of the 2004 lease agreement, providing three offices to Independent Fire Company (president, company administration and chief/officers.)
- I would like to thank everyone who helped make the department dinner a success, especially the administrative staff.

- I would like to thank everyone who helped make the Lt. Edward Marbet memorial service a respectable event. I received compliments from his family.
- I have worked out a deal with Burlington County to have the tower ladder sent to ESTC. I provided our solicitor with the details to start the legal paperwork. We will discuss it in detail during the closed session.
- Aud. R. Elliott is scheduled to be here on Wednesday, March 4th to begin the 2025 audit.
- Thank you to all the firefighters who worked the duty crews during the recent snowstorm.
- Depending on the results of the election, we may need to have discussions, hopefully both questions will pass, and Comm. Painter is re-elected.

Chief's Report:

Chief Leshner was not in attendance and no report was submitted. Deputy Chief Field also thanked those that assisted with the snowstorm, the awards dinner and the memorial service.

Fire Official's Report:

Fire Official Tomaszewski submitted his report as read:

- During the month of January, the Fire Prevention Bureau performed 26 Life Hazard and Non-Life Hazard inspections. A total of 43 re-inspections and 1 complaint inspections were completed.
- Public Education: No report for January
- Fire Investigations: 1/11/26 a garage fire at 810 Neck Road, 1/17/26 a structure fire at 10 Ridgewood Way and 1/26/26 a vehicle fire at Sunrise Place.
- Planning Board: The meeting was scheduled for February 12th. We reviewed the amended housing element and fair share plan 4th round and associated ordinances. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12th.

Public Comment:

There was no comment from the public and this portion of the meeting was closed.

Old Business:

Comm. Ciasca reminded all that we tabled the discussion regarding SOP# 416: Gemtor Harness. He commented that he understands that any decision made will have to be based on whether the budget passes or fails, who would be entitled to the device and how many would be needed. He suggested that we hold off until we receive the final certified election results.

New Business:

A discussion was held regarding the future of the current fire safety trailer. Batt. Chief/FO Tomaszewski explained to the Board that the trailer is in very poor condition with a leaking roof, mold and a bad generator. The cost to repair the generator is at least \$1,000 with no guarantee that it would work. In his opinion the trailer is unusable and not worth repairing. Comm. Scully voiced his concern with the mold as a health and safety hazard. Comm. Ciasca asked if the concept of a fire safety trailer as an educational tool still valuable. Batt. Chief/FO Tomaszewski replied that it is still of value. However, there is no interest within the department in performing this activity

when there are other options available to us. It was agreed that the matter needs to be reviewed further to be able to present better options to the Board.

Approval of Vouchers:

A motion was made by Comm. Johnson and seconded by Comm. Scully to approve the vouchers for payment. Comm. Painter called for roll call with all in agreement and the motion was carried.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Comm. Johnson and seconded by Comm. Scully to approve the Commission Work Session meeting minutes of January 8, 2026, and the Commission Regular Session meeting minutes of January 28, 2026. Comm. Painter called for roll call, all were in agreement except for Comm. Ciasca who abstained from the vote on the January 8, 2026, Work Session minutes, the motion was carried.

District Solicitor's Report: No report.

Health-Welfare-Sickness Report: No report.

Miscellaneous: No discussion was held.

Department Accomplishments:

Comm. Scully congratulated this year's award recipients on their accomplishments.

Good of the Board:

Comm. Johnson thanked all for their assistance over the last month, as it has been very busy with various events. He commented that the memorial for Edward Marbet went well and was very respectable. Adm. Fazekas commented that we also sent a thank you card to Chief Gaynor.

Closed Session:

A motion was made by Comm. Ciasca and seconded by Comm. Scully to move into Closed Session for the purpose of contracts. Comm. Painter called for roll call with all in agreement and the motion was carried.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:26pm. A motion was made by Comm. Johnson and seconded by Comm. Ciasca to approve Resolution 2026-4 Appointing a Fire Official. Comm. Painter called for roll call; all were in agreement except for Comm. Scully who abstained from the vote, the motion was carried.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Comm. Scully and seconded by Comm. Johnson to adjourn the meeting, with all in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28pm.