

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

Regular Meeting Minutes: March 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 March 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

Reorganization:

Sol. Sendzik-Haines opened nominations for Chairperson. Comm. Johnson nominated Comm. Painter, seconded by Comm. Scully. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. Roll call was held and all were in agreement; the motion was carried.

Comm. Painter opened nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Comm. Johnson nominated Comm. Field, seconded by Comm. Scully. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. Roll call was held and all were in agreement; the motion was carried.

Comm. Painter opened nominations for Secretary. Comm. Johnson nominated Comm. Ciasca, seconded by Comm. Scully. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. Roll call was held and all were in agreement; the motion was carried.

Comm. Painter opened nominations for Treasurer. Comm. Scully nominated Comm. Johnson, seconded by Comm. Ciasca. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. Roll call was held and all were in agreement; the motion was carried.

Comm. Painter opened nominations for Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Comm. Ciasca nominated Comm. Scully, seconded by Comm. Johnson. There were no other nominations and the nominations were closed. Roll call was held and all were in agreement; the motion was carried.

Sol. Sendzik-Haines read the following resolutions, Resolution Reaffirming the Board's Prior Actions, By-Laws, Policies, Directives, Decisions, Orders, Contracts, Obligations, Rules and Regulations and Other Acts and Practices, Resolution Designating Newspapers and Public Places for Postings, Resolution Authorizing Establishment of an Official Depository, Resolution

Authorizing a Contract for Accounting Services and a Resolution Authorizing a Contract for Auditing Services. A motion was made by Comm. Scully and seconded by Comm. Ciasca to approve the five resolutions as read. Comm. Painter called for roll call. Roll call was held with all in agreement and the motion was carried.

Correspondence:

1. Bureau of Fire Prevention February 2026 receipts memorandum.

Appointments/Oath of Office:

At this moment Comm. Painter requested Ashley Johnson come forth to take her official Oath of Public Office as recited by Comm. Ciasca. The Board of Fire Commissioners congratulated Ashley Johnson on her new position and welcomed her to the department. Comm. Painter then read a letter written by Fire Official Johnson expressing her gratitude for the opportunity to serve as our fire official.

New Members:

There were no new members received.

Administrator's Report:

Adm. Fazekas submitted his report as follows:

- The new Fire Official started 3/16/26 and will be sworn in at the 3/25/26 regular meeting. I sent an e-mail to the Station 301 officers regarding the use of the 1st floor office for career lieutenants after I reviewed the 2004 Lease agreement. The office move will still be in accordance with the 2004 lease agreement providing 3 offices to Independent Fire Company. All the offices have been rearranged at Station 301. Thank you to everyone who helped with the moving process.
- I have sent our solicitor the paperwork to sell Burlington County the old tower ladder to be used at ESTC. I advised the solicitor that the Commissioners approved of the sale at the last meeting.
- Aud. R. Elliott was here on Wednesday Mar. 3rd and Mar. 11th to start the 2025 Audit.
- The Fire Official Certification of Eligible Applicant form was submitted and approved by Civil Service. A copy of the new 2026 Officer contact listing is in drop box.
- All election certifications were received and uploaded into the FAST system. A copy of the certification and 2026 Certification of Amounts to be Raised by Taxation to Support the Fire District Budget are in drop-box.
- Congratulations to Lieutenant Amodio, Firefighter Diloreto, Firefighter Nemeth, Firefighter Conard and resident Albert Oliver for the 200 Club Honor-Valor Award they received on March 20, 2026.
- Thank you to the Training Committee for scheduling "A Mental Health Night for Our Fire Family" on March 24, 2026. This training seminar was open to all department firefighters and their families.
- I have been working closely with Station 302 Executive & Line Officers on several repairs at their station. I would like to thank the members who have helped with these repairs.

- Battalion Chief Tomaszewski and I have met with several companies on the new air system for SCBA bottles. We have received a quote and the purchase order from the Township (using 2025 Pilot Funds) and the unit was ordered. Lead time is 6-8 weeks.
- Battalion Chief Tomaszewski and I are working with Gov Deals on selling the old fire safety trailer. I will keep you updated on the sale.
- There is a resolution being presented to sign a MOU with the Burlington Township Police Department and Burlington Township Office of Emergency Management. The police department now has a certified drone operator and has requested use of our drones. There will be training for the officer on the drones. I checked with our insurance representative Tim Irons, there are no issues with insurance, I must submit to the insurance company a copy of the operator's certification.
- I submitted to the State of New Jersey a payment voucher for the Jones Road Fire reimbursement. We will receive a check for \$3,068.91.
- To comply with the law Governor Murphy signed into effect last year, we have added "Public Notices" to our web-site home page. The webpage has been registered with the State.
- With the passage of the 2026 budget, I am requesting permission to contact Civil Service to obtain the firefighter list.
- The administrative staff and career firefighters met with Project Red. They are a deferred compensation company working with National Life Insurance Company. There is no fire district expense to join this deferred compensation.

A motion was made by Comm. Ciasca and seconded by Comm. Johnson to approve Adm. Fazekas to move forward with obtaining the firefighter list from civil service. Comm. Painter called for roll call. Roll call was held with all members in agreement, and motion was carried.

A motion was made by Comm. Scully and seconded by Comm. Johnson to approve Project Red as the deferred compensation for the fire district employees. Comm. Painter called for roll call. Roll call was held with all members in agreement, and motion was carried.

A brief discussion was held regarding the compliance with the new public notices' laws. Sol. Sendzik-Haines stated that we will continue with the old way of posting our notices as well as making sure that we comply with the new laws related to online postings.

Chief's Report: Chief Leshner had nothing new to report.

Fire Official's Report:

Fire Official Tomaszewski stated that this will be his final report as Fire Official:

- During the month of February, the Fire Prevention Bureau performed 36 Life Hazard and Non-Life Hazard inspections. A total of 27 re-inspections and 10 complaint inspections were completed.
- Public Education: Mar. 4th a Ride-A-Long, Mar. 6th the High School Career Fair, Mar. 11th a Girl Scout Walk Thru Tour and Mar. 13th a home inspection.
- Fire Investigations: Mar. 12th at 109 Elbow Lane a structure fire
- Planning Board: The meeting was scheduled for Mar. 12th. Planning Board heard an amended preliminary and final major site plan for HGMG Properties. The affordable housing ordinance was reviewed. The next meeting is scheduled for April 9th.

Public Comment:

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

Old Business: No discussions were held.

New Business:

A resolution was read Authorizing the Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Burlington Township Police Department and the Burlington Township Office of Emergency Management for the Utilization of the Burlington Township Fire Department's Unmanned Aircraft System. A motion was made by Comm. Scully and seconded by Comm. Ciasca to approve the resolution as presented, Comm. Painter called for roll call. Roll call was held with all members in agreement, and motion was carried.

A resolution was read Authorizing the Intent to Use an Alternate Procurement Method pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2(b)(3), in relation to the purchase of a Pierce Enforcer 107' Ascendant Aerial and necessary equipment to make functional. A motion was made by Comm. Ciasca and seconded by Comm. Scully to approve the resolution as presented, Comm. Painter called for roll call. Roll call was held with all members in agreement, and motion was carried.

Approval of Vouchers:

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

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Comm. Johnson and seconded by Comm. Ciasca to approve the minutes of February 12, 2026 Work Session and February 25, 2026, Regular Session. Comm. Painter asked for roll call. Roll call was held with all members in agreement, and motion was carried.

District Solicitor's Report: No report.

Health-Welfare-Sickness Report: No report.

Miscellaneous: No discussion was held.

Department Accomplishments:

Chief Leshner advised the Board that on March 20th the 200 Club recognized Career Lt. Amodio, Career FF Diloreto, Career FF Nemeth and Career. FF Conard along with Burlington Twp. resident Albert Oliver by presenting them with the 200 Club Honor Valor Award.

Good of the Board:

Comm. Johnson thanked the new administration of Station 302 for stepping up and recognizing matters that ought to be dealt with in-house.

Comm. Ciasca congratulated Ashley Johnson on her appointment as Fire Official, stating that her previous employer's loss was our gain.

Closed Session: No Closed Session

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Comm. Scully and seconded by Comm. Johnson to adjourn the meeting, roll call was held with all in agreement. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23pm.

Transcribed & submitted by: C. Warren