

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

Regular Meeting Minutes: May 27, 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 May 27, 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 April 2026 receipts memorandum.

New Members: No action taken.

Appointments/Oath of Office:

At this time Comm. Painter called new member Kinte Holt forward to take his official oath of public office. Comm. Ciasca recited the oath to Mr. Holt as he repeated same and then was welcomed into the department by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

At this time Comm. Painter called new member Nicholas Colon forward to take his official oath of public office. Comm. Ciasca recited the oath to Mr. Colon as he repeated same and then was welcomed into the department by the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Administrator Fazekas's Report:

Adm. Fazekas submitted his report as follows:

- I received the Certification of the Fire District Tax rate from the township tax assessor. Our 2026 established tax rate is 0.108, less than the 0.110 tax rate we anticipated preparing the 2026 budget.
- The Fire Safety House was sold on Gov.Deals. We received \$2,675.00 for the trailer.
- Orientation was conducted on May 5, 2026, for six firefighter candidates. Deadline to submit completed applications is 4pm on Friday, May 22, 2026. After background checks are completed, interviews will be set-up.

- SCBA Air Compressor is to be installed in Sta. 301 within a few weeks. After completed we will explore a refill system to replace the system at Sta. 302.
- We are still awaiting the county solicitor to review the contract to send the old 3035 to the Emergency Service Training Center.
- The “Tax-Exempt Lease bid” for the new truck will be opened on June 17, 2026, 11am at Sendzik & Sendzik’s office. After the bids are awarded, we will schedule an appointment with the Local Finance Board to get approval to purchase. A notice regarding the bid was posted in newspapers, all firehouses, town hall, and our web page.

Chief Leshner’s Report:

Chief Leshner advised the Board that we have received notice from the NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness. This notice promotes public awareness and safety with relation to the upcoming FIFA World Cup 2026 and various USA 250th Anniversary events. It is expected that the country will receive more than 1.2 million visitors traveling within the New York/New Jersey region.

Fire Official Johnson’s Report:

Fire Official Johnson submitted her report as follows:

- During the month of April, the Fire Prevention Bureau performed a total of 20 Life Hazard and 32 Non-Life Hazard inspections. Additionally, the following follow-up activities were completed: Re-inspections-59, Complaint inspections-5, and Permits issued-2 (food trucks)
- Fire Investigations: April 15th a vehicle fire at 1211 Castle Road, April 16th a dwelling fire at 11 Castle Road and April 20th a vehicle fire at Neck Road & Bustleton Road.
- Public Education & Community Outreach: April 2nd-5th at Independent Fire Co. #1 an Easter flower sale and April 30th at St. Paul’s School a career fair.

Fire Official Johnson added that we have made positive strides with our social media campaign with both outgoing and incoming responses.

Public Comment:

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

Old Business:

A resolution was read by Comm. Ciasca Reaffirming Authorization for Public Solicitation for Bids for Financing a Lease with an Option to Purchase. A motion was made by Comm. Scully and seconded by Comm. Johnson to approve the resolution as read. Roll call was held with all in favor, except Comm. Painter who abstained from the vote; motion carried.

A resolution was read by Comm. Ciasca Reaffirming Making Application to the Local Finance Board Authorizing Proposed Project Financing Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5A-6. A motion was made by Comm. Johnson and seconded by Comm. Scully to approve the resolution as read. Roll call was held with all in favor, except Comm. Painter who abstained from the vote; motion carried.

New Business:

Comm. Johnson questioned Adm. Fazekas as to the intention of the SOPs that have been placed in Dropbox. Adm. Fazekas stated that they have been provided for the Board's review and comments. A brief discussion was held where Adm. Fazekas explained that some policies were conflicting with our SOPs and we previously agreed to turn the policies into SOPs to prevent this issue. Comm. Ciasca advised that the reason we have policies versus only SOPs was because if a change needs to be made it only takes one reading to change a policy versus two for an SOP.

Adm. Fazekas acknowledged Comm. Ciasca's comments and added that we had a discussion last year to turn our policies into SOPs, we now have a section dedicated to the Commission and the policies were transferred into SOP format, but the wording has not changed. The format we are using is recognized throughout the State of New Jersey for accreditation, this will help us in the future if we decide to become an accredited department. The Commission schedules two meetings per month therefore we can amend an SOP and have it approved within months' time.

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: motion carried.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Comm. Scully and seconded by Comm. Johnson to approve the minutes of April 22, 2026, Regular Session and April 9, 2026, Work Session. Comm. Painter asked for roll call. Roll call was held with all members in agreement: motion carried.

District Solicitor's Report: No report.

Health-Welfare-Sickness Report: No report.

Miscellaneous: No discussion was held.

Department Accomplishments: No discussion was held.

Good of the Board:

Adm. Fazekas congratulated Comm. Painter on her retirement from the Burlington Township Police Department. He also commented that in her 40 years with the police she was also involved with the office of emergency management. He finished by stating that it was a pleasure working with her during her time with the police department but also with the fire department. Comm. Painter thanked Adm. Fazekas for his kind words and commented that it was time to retire, and it was a wonderful 40 years.

Closed Session:

A motion was made by Comm. Johnson and seconded by Comm. Scully to approve a resolution to move into Closed Session for the purpose of personnel. Comm. Painter asked for roll call. Roll call was held with all members in agreement: motion carried.

The meeting was re-opened, at this time a motion was made by Comm. Johnson and seconded by Comm. Scully to allow Adm. Fazekas to make offers of conditional employment upon completion of the candidate interviews. Roll call was held with all in agreement and the motion was carried.

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 7:25pm.