

HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

*approved
cc.
2/13/25*

Date of Meeting:	Thursday, January 23, 2025
Meeting Place:	95 High School Road Extension, Hyannis, MA 02601 and Zoom Meeting and Dial-in Number: 1-305-224-1968

A quorum being duly present, Chairperson Cronin called the January 23, 2025 Hyannis Fire District Commissioner Regular Meeting to order at 7:02 PM

PRESENT: Chairperson Laura Cronin, Commissioner Peter Cross, Commissioner Victor Skende, and Commissioner Demetrius Atsalis (ZOOM)

ALSO PRESENT: Assistant Chief Gregory Dardia, District Clerk-Treasurer TK Menesale (ZOOM), and HFD Recording Secretary Colleen Murphy

ABSENT: Chief Peter Burke and Commissioner Alex Mercado

I. OPEN SESSION:

1. MINUTES:

- Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve the minutes of November 14, 2024, as amended

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

- Chairperson Cronin: Aye
- Commissioner Cross: Aye
- Commissioner Skende: Aye
- Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

- Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve the minutes of December 3, 2024, as amended

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

- Chairperson Cronin: Aye
- Commissioner Cross: Aye
- Commissioner Skende: Aye
- Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

- Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve the minutes of January 9, 2025, as amended

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

- Chairperson Cronin: Aye
- Commissioner Cross: Aye
- Commissioner Skende: Aye
- Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

2. CORRESPONDENCE:

- None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

4. STREETLIGHTS:

- Chairperson Cronin stated there were a couple of emails received recently; she inquired if Commissioner Atsalis had been able to review these emails yet.

4. STREETLIGHTS (continued):

- Commissioner Atsalis stated he had been able to process these emails regarding streetlight requests on Suomi Road, Dunn's Pond Road, and Sea Street
- Commissioner Atsalis traveled to Suomi Road to see the current streetlight design; he will follow up with the Suomi Road neighbors to make sure there is a consensus so that the HFD board will hopefully avoid causing any unforeseen streetlight issues with the proposed streetlight changes
- Commissioner Atsalis said he needs to review the Dunn's Pond Road situation as the requestor's sent a follow-up email with more details
- Commissioner Atsalis stated the last email concerning the Sea Street request was denied as the neighbors decided they did not want the proposed streetlight.
- Commissioner Atsalis notified the email requestors of the streetlight request status and any final streetlight decisions

5. OLD BUSINESS:

6a. BUDGET

- Assistant Chief Dardia said Chief Burke will have the Budget draft for the next meeting for the board's review; all other Budget items are currently on track and in process.
- District Clerk-Treasurer Menesale said the retirement assessment increased by \$200k; this increased assessment item will impact the Budget; this item has to do with the COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment) that was retroactive in 2022; this item is in the Budget under the Retirement Assessment line.

6b. ELECTIONS:

- Chairperson Cronin stated the nomination papers have been handed out; Both Commissioner Alex Mercado and I, are running.
- Chairperson Cronin has not heard anything definite regarding the moderator position which is open this year due to the resignation of Mr. Lobell; although, there was one person who was asking about the moderator status but have not come forward.
- Chairperson Cronin said if the moderator position is not filled before the Annual Meeting, then the moderator can be elected from the floor as in previous years.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

- Commissioner Skende asked if Commissioner Cross and District Clerk-Treasurer Menesale will meet with our Hyannis Fire District's attorney who attended last year's meeting, to discuss the streamlining of the Annual Meeting where we can.
- Commissioner Cross said he touched base with District Clerk-Treasurer Menesale about the Annual Meeting streamlining options; Commissioner Cross and District Clerk-Treasurer Menesale will meet up next week to discuss this item; the meeting will be via ZOOM, any proposed language changes will be reviewed by our attorney's before finalizing.
- The board discussed the importance of the Annual Meeting's language and to make sure the information is clear and the language is precise.

7. BUILDING REPORT:

- Assistant Chief Dardia stated there are no known issues with the building; the ramp is going well; the new decontamination sink is working well.

8. ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR:

- None

9. CHIEF'S REPORT:

- Assistant Chief Dardia thanked the board for its attendance at the January 14th Recognition Ceremony; the board's attendance means a lot to the FFs; it is quite a bit of work organizing this event, but it is a special and valuable ceremony for the FFs
- Assistant Chief Dardia said the scheduling of this event is complex as there are so many limitations due to the board's scheduled meetings and elections and the other obligations of the HFD; going forward, the Recognition Ceremony's scheduled date may need to change to accommodate as many family members.
- Commissioner Cross suggested to Assistant Chief Dardia to ask the HFD Local Union 2127 leadership for a date direction as there are only a few months a year that they could have this award ceremony as there are so many obligations and other factors affecting this award ceremony date.
- The board discussed the importance of this event and the complexity of scheduling it
- Chairperson Cronin, Commissioner Cross and Commissioner Skende stated the Recognition Ceremony was a well-executed event; the board thanked Assistant Chief Dardia for his and his team's efforts in planning and

executing this complex and vital ceremony

9. CHIEF'S REPORT (continued):

- Assistant Chief Dardia, per the Chief Burke's direction, is seeking the board's approval to pursue 2 conditional offers to 2 candidates; both of these candidates have completed the Fire Academy training and they both are certified EMTs; if the board approves Chief Burke's decision to offer these 2 candidates conditional offers then these 2 candidates will start in March 2025 and be targeted to be ready to begin, by July 2025.

- Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve Chief Burke offering 2 conditional offers to these 2 candidates:

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Chairperson Cronin: Aye
Commissioner Cross: Aye
Commissioner Skende: Aye
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

- Assistant Chief Dardia stated the HFD Local Union 2127 has approached Chief Burke to start talking about the HFD promotional policy; the HFD Local Union 2127 is thinking of possibly limiting the number of candidates moving forward as the testing can be costly; Chief Burke will discuss with the HFD Local Union 2127 leadership how to best streamline the HFD promotional policy in the most cost-effective way; then Chief Burke will bring the proposed HFD promotional policy changes to the board for its decision regarding these proposed changes.
- The board thought it was a good idea for Chief Burke to meet with the HFD Local Union 2127 to discuss the proposed HFD promotional policy changes to bring before the board.
- Assistant Chief Dardia stated the HFD received the equipment grant, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts granted the HFD about \$19k.
- Assistant Chief Dardia put in for approval on the new ballistic equipment; the HFD first purchases the equipment and then the grant will reimburse the HFD the equipment cost; this request for equipment will buy 12 full ballistic equipment sets; this equipment request must be fulfilled by June 25, 2025.
- Chairperson Cronin asked if this grant is sufficient to cover the ballistics need and Assistant Chief Dardia said he thought it would cover the HFD's current ballistics need, but he is looking to see if the HFD can find more long-lasting ballistic equipment.
- The board thanked Assistant Chief Dardia for his efforts in applying for and receiving this grant for the HFD
- Assistant Chief Dardia stated the recent cuts to the Governor's Budget does not affect the HFD.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

Vote on Adjournment of public session:

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to Adjourn the public session

VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

Chairperson Cronin: Aye
Commissioner Cross: Aye
Commissioner Skende: Aye
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

Adjourned at 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Murphy, HFD Recording Secretary

MEETING AGENDA
HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT - BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
NOTICE OF MEETING IN ACCORDANCE WITH M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(b)
Laura Cronin- Chair

DATE OF MEETING: **Thursday, January 23, 2025**
TIME: **7:00 PM**
PLACE: **95 High School Road Extension, Hyannis, MA 02601**

REMOTE PARTICIPATION:

On **January 23, 2025**, a meeting of the Board of Commissioners will be conducted at the HYANNIS FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS. Real-time Public comment can be addressed to the Board utilizing the Zoom link or telephone number and access code listed below:

Link: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/5042956607>
Meeting ID: 504 295 6607
For Public Comment Dial: 1-305-224-1968
Password: Hyannis1!

AGENDA & CALL TO ORDER:

I. OPEN SESSION

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Correspondence
- 3) Public Comment
- 4) Street Lights
- 5) Old Business
 - Budget
 - Elections
- 6) New Business
- 7) Building Report
- 8) Items not reasonably anticipated by Chair
- 9) Chiefs Report
- 10) Public Comment

ADJOURN

The Chair reserves the right to call items on the agenda out of order. Items are listed in their approximate order, and items may be reached earlier or later than the posted order. Items listed for executive session may also be discussed in open session. The listing of items contains those items reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law. Persons interested are advised that in the event that any matter taken up at the meeting that remains unfinished at the close of the meeting may be put off to a continued session of the meeting, in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.