

Approved  
7/25/24

## HYANNIS FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Date of Meeting:	Thursday, May 9, 2024
Meeting Place:	95 High School Road Extension, Hyannis, MA 02601 and Zoom Meeting and Dial-in Number: 781-368-1701

A quorum being duly present, Chairperson Cronin called the May 9, 2024 Hyannis Fire District Commissioner Regular Meeting to order at 7:02 PM

**PRESENT:** Chairperson Laura Cronin, Commissioners Peter Cross, Alex Mercado, Victor Skende, and Demetrius Atsalis

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chief Peter Burke, District Clerk-Treasurer TK Menesale, Assistant Chief Mark Storie, Allen Giles from Solect Energy, FF Michael Dalmau, FF Christopher Murphy, and HFD Recording Secretary Colleen Murphy

### I. OPEN SESSION:

- Chairperson Cronin took the meeting out of order for the Solect Energy presentation
- Alan Giles from Solect Energy spoke about the proposed solar project for HFD's firehouse
- Giles discussed the financials and the solar project plan; he spoke about the projected cost savings of 38% and he stated that the contract is at \$300k
- Based on these facts, the billing rate will be reduced from 18.4 to 12.76, 60% of electricity will be from Eversource and 40% of the electricity will be from the solar panels
- Chairperson Cronin asked what the maintenance would be for the upkeep of the solar equipment
- Giles said the easements were in place before the firehouse building was updated, the maintenance of the solar equipment would be the contractor's responsibility including the roof
- The board asked Giles questions regarding the easements
- This proposed plan would lock in the price for the next 20 years; the district would be able to budget the electricity expense over that 20-year time frame
- If this solar project is approved and the contracts are executed, then the solar project would commence at the end of summer 2024
- The board requested a copy of Giles' Solect Energy presentation
- Commissioner Cross recommended that the board discuss their opinions and make their decision regarding this proposed solar project plan at the next board meeting
- Chief Burke said the Commonwealth has created this solar program and that is why the HFD would not have maintenance fees for this solar project; if there are no canopies then there will be about a 10% reduction in savings
- Chairperson Cronin asked Chief Burke to look into who would take care of taking the panels off of the roof if this decision had to be made for whatever reason, i.e. obsolescence after 20 years, etc.
- Chairperson Cronin's major concerns regarding this solar project plan is to make sure there is no installation cost, the roof structure is not compromised, and this project will not affect the HFD service
- Chairperson Cronin asked Chief Burke to also look into the easement situation
- The board agreed to look over Giles' presentation and decide the status of the proposed solar project plan during the next meeting

## 1. MINUTES:

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve the minutes of April 25, 2024 as amended

### VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY

Vote recorded as follows:

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

## 2. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Chairperson Cronin said Mr. Richard Gallagher of Centerville sent a letter received on April 18, 2024; this letter was reviewed by the board members
- Commissioner Skende stated the action item requested by the April 18, 2024 letter has been satisfied, as the letter was distributed to the board members and read by the board members
- Meeting minutes confirm that the documents mentioned in the April 18, 2024 letter were shown to the commissioners and the secretary of state 2023 letter was discussed in 2023
- Chairperson Cronin and Commissioner Cross concurred there is no further action request from the April 18<sup>th</sup> letter
- A copy of the April 18, 2024 letter will be attached to the May 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes

## 3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

- None

## 4. STREET LIGHTS:

- Commissioner Atsalis said the streetlight on the corner of Look Out Lane and Harbor Bluff Road the light has not been reinstalled

## 5. OLD BUSINESS:

### a. Elections and Annual Meeting:

- The board agreed to have the candidates' names arranged in alphabetical order and the moderator will be an open position
- Chairperson Cronin said the Annual Meeting is all set for next week
- District Clerk Treasurer Menesale stated the attorney Linda Champion is set, Carol Taylor will be there to work the election and also to check the names, the stenographer will arrive early
- Chairperson Cronin stated the annual reports are printed and the motions will be read out loud
- Chief Burke went over the audio-visual equipment and plan for the Annual Meeting

### b. Review Final FY25 Annual Report

- District Clerk Treasurer Menesale emailed the line item figures to the board before the meeting
- District Clerk Treasurer Menesale stated the Total Free Cash is \$3,732,369; the Total Ambulance Fund is 4,043,906.90 dated April 30, 2024
- This year Chief Burke and District Clerk Treasurer Menesale suggested taking Free Cash \$2,100,000 and Ambulance Fund \$4,000,000 to be taken out and moved into the budget
- District Clerk Treasurer and Chief Burke detailed the budget impacts of these decisions
- These numbers are not final until voted on at the Annual Meeting; this proposed action is to offset the budget expense to get to a slight increase for the FY25 budget (2.13% increase but the number includes stabilization fund)
- The board had a discussion on the various ways to offset the FY 2025 budget

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve to move \$4M from the Ambulance Fund to offset the FY25 budget

**VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

Vote recorded as follows:

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

Upon a motion duly made and seconded it was voted to approve to transfer \$1.1M from Free Cash to offset the FY25 budget

**VOTE: PASSES UNANIMOUSLY**

Vote recorded as follows:

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

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

**7. BUILDING REPORT:**

- Solar project update please see "Open Session" section for the presentation notes
- Chief Burke stated Cliffhangers installed the anchors that were needed; the AC condenser has been replaced for \$35,000 that should be covered by the operating budget
- Commissioner Skende asked about the status of the Global Memorial
- Chief Burke said the Global Memorial in the name of Steven Siller, a former FF, which was discussed in the April 25, 2024 board meeting is in process and moving forward

**8. ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR**

- None

**9. CHIEF'S REPORT**

- Chief Burke asked FF Murphy to give the boat status update
- FF Murphy stated Marine 2 boat is sandblasted, the paint has been removed, and we start the painting process on Monday dependent on the weather; the plumbing issues are set; the electrical work is set, and the propulsion is set; the tentative date for the boat to be in the water is next week
- FF Murphy said the boat is scheduled for the beginning of June 2024 to be in the water although we will still be working on the wiring
- FF Murphy stated once Marine 2's work has been completed then Marine 1 will need to be serviced, although Marine 1's work will not have to be started until after July 1, 2024
- Chief Burke said there is a 4-day trench rescue class scheduled; 3 FFs from HFD will attend
- Chief Burke stated that on May 28<sup>th</sup> the Deputy Exam is scheduled to occur
- Chief Burke said the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the special development course will be taking place this week

**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 Mercado: Aye  
Commissioner Atsalis: Aye

Adjourned at 8:20 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, May 9, 2024  
**TIME:** 7:00 PM  
**PLACE:** 95 High School Road Extension, Hyannis, MA 02601

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**REMOTE PARTICIPATION:**

On **May 9, 2024**, 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!

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**AGENDA & CALL TO ORDER:**

**I. OPEN SESSION**

1. Minutes
2. Correspondence
3. Public Comment
4. Street Lights
5. Old Business
  - a. Elections and Annual Meeting
  - b. Review Final FY25 Annual Report
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.