BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
Tuesday, August 11, 2026
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Room 1
Monthly Meeting

Commissioners Present: Tim Reynolds, John Cotter, Craig Mansfield
Guests Present: Todd Gelston, Brian Auld

1. **Called to order** at 5:06 pm by Tim Reynolds and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Acceptance of Minutes**:
   a. Motion to approve the Minutes of the meeting on 6/9/26 as presented, made by John Cotter, seconded by Tim Reynolds. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Bill Approvals:
   a. Bills to be paid were reviewed and discussed. Motion to approve the invoices as presented and discussed by Craig Mansfield, seconded by Tim Reynolds. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Budget Recap:
   a. John Cotter provided a budget recap, noting the department's to-date spending. To date for the 2026-27 budget year started with $754,185and to date we have spent $64,447.20 leaving us a remaining amount of $689,737.88. This is 8% of the total budget.
   b. A discussion was held related to why OT was so high. Chief Auld noted that LT Leidemer has been out for the last month and the other staff have been needing to cover the open shifts.

5. Old Business:
   a. Craig Mansfield provided an update on the Moodus Firehouse Building Committee. Presentation to the Board of Finance on August 4th. The process will continue to move forward to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, town meeting, and then the Referendum on October 13th. There will be a one page flyer in the paper on August 27th with more information. Thank you to Rob and Melanie Kolek for creating the as is conditions video.

6. Selectman's Report:
   a. Road paving underway. (5 Roads in Hadlyme area)
   b. Police continue to do enforcement, and the eight electronic speed signs are up.
   c. Continue to work through the Ambulance situation in town. Need a short and long-term plan.
   d. Two companies are still looking at the public works site for cell tower site. Those companies ae working with the providers to see who is interested in getting on the tower.
   e. Need to continue to sell and explain need for Company 2 up to the oct 13th referendum. Because of voting we need to ensure we hit the 10/13 date or we will be into 2027 for a vote.

f. East Haddam Redevelopment Agency continues to work towards a plan.
g. Golf Course Committee provided the Board of Selectmen with a plan and expect to have on meeting agenda for discussion at 8/19 Board of Selectmen meeting.
h. 4 open positions on the EDC, need volunteers. Chairman to be elected at next meeting
i. Revaluation process is kicking off. This is done on a 5-year cycle.
j. Still waiting on direction from the companies we are working with on the cell phone tower at public works.

7. Visitors Participation:

a. None

8. Reports:

a. Medical Division Report: See below
b. Career Staff Report: No report
c. Marine Division Report: No report.
    i. Supported Triathlon this weekend
d. Fire Marshal's Report: See below
e. Fire Police Division Report: No report.
f. Junior Division Report: See below
    i. Continue to be a great recruitment program for the department
g. Recruitment Division Report: No report
h. Public Relations Report: No report
i. Special Events Report: No report
j. Fire Chief's Report: See below

9. Building & Equipment Reports:

a. Building Report: Phone lines continue to be an issue at Company #2 and Company #1. Don Angersola working with Matt Hall
b. Fire Equipment and Maintenance Report: See Chief's Report.
c. Radio Equipment Report: All radio reprogramming done for fire apparatus and personal vehicles. Also, have spare pager batteries.

10. Correspondence:

a. None

11. New Business:

a. Nate Botting provided the commissioners with an update on the ATV trailer, cost trade in, etc. Trailer has a long lead-time and B&H trailer wants to sell on consignment not pay for it up front. Another option is to sell on Govdeals. John Cotter and Nate Botting to sit down with Finance Director Valerie Belles to discuss scenarios.
b. Most maintenance is done on vehicles. There is a large bill still due for maintenance on Tanker 2 for approx. $10K. Most of this was for new tires. Engine 1 will need tires soon and also, looking at motorized dumb tank.
c. Tim Reynolds reviewed a recap of the last year and what the department and all the members have done to continue to move forward in a professional and fiscally responsible way. He also highlighted the need for an agreement to be signed between EHAA and the town to allow the fire department to support the residents through use

of the East Haddam and town ambulance that many times remain sitting in the station because they cannot be staffed.

12. Adjournment:

a. Motion to adjourn at 6:04 pm made by John Cotter, second by Craig Mansfield. Motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:

Craig Mansfield
Secretary
08/22/2026

REPORTS

Medical Division Report: Submitted by Melanie Kolek

- Medical training this month is scheduled for Monday, 8/17 on BGL "check and inject" which is mandated training within our medical scope/Middlesex Hospital requirements.
- EMT class is done and all EHFD passed the course instructed by EMS-I Bob Gaudio of our medical division. The students are in the process of scheduling their state exams to take place in the next 4-6 weeks.
- I am working with the town's recommended print service on a new universal R-1 intake form (note pad) which will also incorporate our department's refusal form.
- FP 15-9 Engineer Rob Kolek and I completed a video of the present conditions of Co2 requested by the Moodus Firehouse Building Committee.
- I completed work with Youth & Family Services regarding where opioid settlement funds coming into the town could best be served.
- Regarding the working group with the ambulance association, our plan is done as a department and ready to present. It is comprehensive, verifiable and will save the town money over the long haul. We are waiting for the opportunity to be put on the BOS agenda to present the same.

Career Staff Report: No report submitted

- No Report

Marine Report: No report submitted

- No Report

Fire Marshal: No report submitted.

- No Report

Fire Police Division Report: No report submitted.

- No Report

Junior Division Report: Report Submitted

- Three Juniors will be starting fire academy this summer for training.

Recruitment Division Report: No report Submitted

- One new member being sworn in tonight.

Public Relations Report: No report submitted

- No Report

Special Events Report: No report submitted.

- No Report

Chiefs Report: Submitted by Brian Auld.

EAST HADDAM FIRE DEPARTMENT

BOFC AUGUST 11, 2026

CALLS JULY

ONE	SMOKE INVESTIGATION
ONE	STRUCTURE FIRE
ONE	MUTUAL AID STRUCTURE FIRE
ONE	BRUSH FIRE
ONE	DUMPSTER FIRE
TWO	GAS EMERGENCY
THREE	MARINE RESCUE
FOUR	GOOD INTENT
SEVEN	CARBON MONOXIDE EMERGENCY
SEVEN	MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT
EIGHT	FIRE ALARM
TWELVE	POWERLINE EMERGENCY
FIFTY-FOUR	R-1 MEDICAL

102 CALLS TOTAL V 65 CALLS LAST YEAR

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- **GOOD LUCK TO:**
  - Junior Firefighter Dylan Miller and Engineer Rob Kolek for enrolling in Firefighter 1 and 2 - Hosted by Clinton Fire Department

- **CONGRATULATIONS TO:**
  - Lieutenant Spirito and Captain Botting on completing the honor guard course held at the fire academy

- **DYLAN MILLER**
  - Will be graduating from the Advanced Intro to Fire Service course at CFA on August 15th

- More details to follow

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- **ZAH UHLMAN**
  - Has returned to the department as a Firefighter

- **RON SMITH**
  - has joined the department as Fire Police

- **TWO JUNIOR FIRE PERSONNEL**
  - are currently in the recruitment process

TRAINING

- **NEXT DRILL IS:**
  - Tuesday, August 11, 2026, 19:00
  - Motor Vehicle Accident – Car over ravine
  - Captain Botting and Captain Kyle Mosig will be instructing

- **LPG TRAINING AT SCHUSTER PARK**
  - is being rescheduled with a tentative date of Tuesday, August 11th or 18th – at 1900 hours
  - The Class A Live Burn and Flashover drill will be scheduled in the fall of this year

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EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

- **CAR WASH**
  - will be held Saturday, August 29th 10am to 2pm at Company # 2
  - $10 per vehicle

- **BACK TO SCHOOL SWAP**
  - is Wednesday, August 9th from 2pm to 5pm at Christ Community Church
  - An apparatus will be reporting to this event

- **SUMMER PALOOZA**
  - is Saturday, September 12th
  - Car Seat install and Recruitment will be presented
  - A message will be sent on Active 911

- **CAR SEAT INSTALL CLINIC**
  - is Sunday, September 20th
  - Time to be decided

APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT

- **PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE**
  - Is complete with the exception Utility 1 and Brush truck –

- Tanker 2 – has new tires and q siren installed – The Q was recycled from the old ladder
- Marine 2 – lower unit has been resealed – functions as normal

- **BRUSH TRUCK UPDATE**
  - Skid spec is being designed by Midwest Military Surplus

- **SQUAD COMMITTEE**
  - Contract has been signed by the selectman as (2) two apparatus have been approved for Four Guys to build
  - Thank you to all who came out for the town meeting to support on July 15th at Board of Selectman
  - Cost per apparatus = $1,333,532 X2 = **$2,667,064**
  - **If chassis payment of $620,492.00 is received within 15 days of chassis delivery to Factory $93,073.00 will be deducted from the total price of $2,667,064 which will equal $2,480,918 as the new total**

- **RANGER TRAILER**
  - Trailer is to be placed on GovDeals by the town – A reserve amount needs to be decided
  - The department is looking to purchase a smaller, open trailer

- **NEW MARINE EQUIPMENT**
  - 4 wet suits / ice picks / helmets / throw bags / tether lines have been placed in service on Marine 1 and 2

- **NEW FUEL FOB TETHERS FOR ALL APPARATUS**
  - Have been placed on all apparatus by Lieutenant Eric Walker

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BUILDING

- **BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING FOR COMPANY # 2 – MONDAY AUGUST 3RD 19:00**
  - Recap

- **COMPANY # 1**
  - One light is still not functional above main entrance in rear of building
  - Phone is still NOT functional

- **MEMORIAL BENCH**
  - Thank you to Lieutenant Boynton and Eddie Smith for moving the bench to company # 1

MEDICAL

- **UNIVERSAL R-1 INTAKE FORM**
  - Is currently at print shop

- **NEXT TRAINING**
  - August 17th on BGL –
  - OEMS recommends all EMS personnel to be recertified
  - Captain Kolek to send message on Active 911

- **MEDICAL SUPPLY WEEKLY**
  - Effective immediately the supplies at company # 2 are to be checked weekly and replenished as needed with a sign off sheet for inspector

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FROM ME:

- **BUDGET FOR 2026 – 2027 HAS BEEN FORMULATED**
  - $16,181.32 was cut from our proposed $770,166.32 which brought it to **$754,185**
  - Cuts came from the following areas:

Career Staff Salary -	$15,001.32
Repair / Maintenance -	$767
Training -	$200
Equipment -	$135
Telephone/Cell	-$78

- **FLAGS (Townwide)**
  - Thank you to Lieutenant Spirito for the consistent maintenance

- I will be on vacation starting this Sunday the 16th and returning on Monday, August 24th

  Deputy Chief Swol will be in charge in my absence.