



Arlington Fire District

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For Emergencies
DIAL 911

“Safeguarding Our Community”

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES January 5, 2026

ATTENDEES:

Comm. Richard Dore – Chairman – (absent)
Comm. Ralph Chiumento, Jr. – Vice Chairman
Comm. Peter Valdez
Comm. Phil Van Itallie
Comm. Sean Jackson

Chief: Adam Kangas
Assistant Chief: Eric Philipp
Director of EMS: David Violante
District Secretary: Renee O’Neill
Treasurer: James Passikoff

Vice Chairman Chiumento opened the Arlington Fire District Board of Fire Commissioners’ meeting at 6:00 p.m., took a roll call of the attendees and everyone stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD** – *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted.*
2. **COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD** – *No action(s) taken by the Board, unless otherwise noted.*
3. **ABSTRACT APPROVAL**
There was no Abstract for this meeting.

4. **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

A. **December 1, 2025 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting**

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 1 (Comm. Valdez abstained)

B. **December 15, 2025 Board of Fire Commissioners' Meeting**

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 3 – 0 – 1 (Comm. Van Itallie abstained)

5. **MONTHLY COMMITTEE REPORTS** – *No reports given unless otherwise noted.*

A. Service Awards –

Comm. Valdez reported:

1. Received from Arrow Bank:

A. Investment Presentation 11/01/19 – 11/30/25

B. LOSAP statement for November 2025

2. Received invoice from Firefly for 50% of the Annual Service Fee in the amount of \$3,100 to be paid out of the LOSAP Trust Fund.

Comm. Valdez made a motion to pay the \$3,100 out of the LOSAP Trust Fund to Firefly. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

B. District Inspections –

C. District Officers / Chief Liaison –

D. EMS & Paramedic Liaison –

E. Public Relations –

F. Equipment Maintenance –

G. Buildings and Grounds –

H. Capital Equipment –

I. Union Negotiations & Contract –

J. Career Staff Liaison –

K. Volunteer Recruitment –

L. District Safety & Health –

M. Strategic Plan –

N. Finance Committee –

O. IT Operations Committee –

P. Croft Lease –

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** – *None unless otherwise noted.*

A. Received “*Fire District Affairs*” newsletter – December 2025 – January 2026.

7. **ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY THE BOARD** – *None unless otherwise noted.*

8. **DONATIONS** – *None unless otherwise noted*

9. **COMMISSIONERS ITEMS** – *No reports and/or discussions unless otherwise noted.*
 Vice Chairman Chiumento read a letter disclosing that Comm. Jackson and himself are members of Croft Corners Fire Company and Comm. Valdez is a member of Red Oaks Mill Fire Company and they participate in the Length of Service Awards Program. (letters attached to these minutes)

10. **DISTRICT STAFF ITEMS**
 - A. Chief Adam Kangas
 1. There has been a lot of fires since the New Year here and with partnering agencies. Thanked everyone for the job well done.

 2. Discussion on Promotions – retirements pending for 2026 and wants to keep up with the staffing levels. Would like permission to set up interviews for Officers. These would be replacements, not additions.

 3. Discussion on hiring six new Firefighters; would be covered by the SAFER grant. These would be replacements, not additions. Six new FF’s will attend the Spring academy’s in Westchester and Utica.

OK’d by the Board to canvas and interview.

 4. Resolution – Phoenixville FD Ladder Truck

RESOLUTION

APPROVING AGREEMENT OF SALE CONCERNING USED LADDER TRUCK

WHEREAS, the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Arlington Fire District (the “Fire District”), Dutchess County, New York (the “Board”), has heretofore established a Capital Equipment Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 6-g of the New York General Municipal Law (the “Capital Equipment Reserve Fund”) for the purpose of financing the acquisition of equipment, including fire apparatus, having a period of probable usefulness; and

WHEREAS, Section 6-g of the General Municipal Law authorizes a fire district to establish a capital reserve fund for the acquisition of equipment, and fire apparatus such as a ladder truck constitutes “equipment” for purposes of Section 6-g and the Local Finance Law; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the acquisition of a ladder truck constitutes the acquisition of equipment having a period of probable usefulness as set forth in Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law; and

WHEREAS, the Board has previously adopted a resolution authorizing the use of an amount not to exceed \$260,000 from the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for the purchase of a

used ladder truck from Phoenixville Fire Department, Borough of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, subject to a permissive referendum in accordance with Section 6-g of the General Municipal Law; and

WHEREAS, notice of such permissive referendum was duly published in accordance with law, and the permissive referendum period commenced on December 1, 2025 and expired on December 31, 2025, and no valid petition requesting that the proposition be submitted to a vote of the electors was filed within the time prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS, as a result, the authorization to expend monies from the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund for such purpose is in full force and effect; and

WHEREAS, the Fire District has identified a suitable used ladder truck for purchase consisting of one (1) used 2008 Emergency One HP100 Aerial Ladder Truck (the “Ladder Truck”), Vehicle Identification Number 4ENGABA8681003714, with approximately 23,759 miles; and

WHEREAS, the Ladder Truck is proposed to be purchased from the Borough of Phoenixville, Chester County, Pennsylvania (the “Seller”), pursuant to an Agreement of Sale, for a total purchase price not to exceed Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), payable in full upon delivery; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the acquisition of the Ladder Truck is necessary and in the best interests of the Fire District for the protection of persons and property within the Fire District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Arlington Fire District hereby approves and authorizes the purchase of one (1) used 2008 Emergency One HP100 Aerial Ladder Truck, Vehicle Identification Number 4ENGABA8681003714, for a total amount of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the cost of the Ladder Truck shall be paid in full from the Fire District’s Capital Equipment Reserve Fund established pursuant to Section 6-g of the General Municipal Law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson of the Board of Fire Commissioners, the Fire District Treasurer, the Fire Chief, or any other authorized officer of the Fire District is hereby authorized and directed to execute any and all agreements, bills of sale, certificates, and other documents, and to take all actions necessary or appropriate to consummate the purchase of the Ladder Truck and payment of the purchase price.

Comm. Van Itallie made a motion to approve the resolution. Seconded by Comm. Jackson.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

5. Shannon Shook, who is the District EMS Secretary, resolution to update her agreement - .75 cents per hour increase effective

01/01/26. Vice Chairman Chiumento reported it goes from \$25.00 per hour to \$25.75 per hour.

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve Shannon Shook's contract. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

6. Request the Board to authorize a transfer not to exceed \$39K out of the Employee Benefit Accrued Liability Fund for Thomas Burke's contractual sick time payment.

Comm. Jackson made a motion to approve. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

7. Two Staff vehicles ordered under the permissive referendum will be delivered this week, then get sent out to be upfitted. Thanked Battalion Chief Dunderdale for moving vehicles around and saving over \$30K that was originally allocated in the permissive referendum.

B. Assistant Chief Eric Philipp – No report.

C. Director of EMS David Violante

1. CME Certification Policy - It's been updated with NYS changes; the policy now requires a Board member to sign it. It tracks CME's, notifies individuals, and keeps everyone updated.

Comm. Jackson made a motion to authorize Ralph to sign the CME Certification Policy for the District. Seconded by Comm. Valdez.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

D. Treasurer James Passikoff – No report.

11. **SCHOOL REQUESTS**

The Board of Fire Commissioners authorized the Chief to approve in advance, school requests that are located inside or outside of Dutchess County and is either contractually required or required to maintain a certification or does not exceed \$100.00.

For Commissioners notification purposes only:

- A. Eric Philipp: "Step Up and Lead", January 10, 2026 at Wappingers Junior High School. (No cost)

The following school requests require consideration by the Board of Fire Commissioners:

No school requests were submitted for consideration.

With no further business to conduct, Comm. Jackson made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Seconded by Comm. Van Itallie.

- Motion Carried, 4 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee O’Neill
District Secretary



BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS MEETING PUBLIC ATTENDANCE SHEET

NOTE: This sheet will be attached to the Board of Fire Commissioners meeting minutes as part of the official record. If you agree to have your name as part of the official record and published on our website, please legibly print your name below. Thank you.

DATE OF MEETING: 1/5/26
