MINUTES
Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS
October 8, 2026 – 5:00 PM
Litchfield Fire Department
258 West St ▪ Litchfield CT

Members Present: John Campbell, Michael Castelli, Sean Fogarty, Jack Hodges, James Koser, Fire Marshal Dave Rogers.
Members Absent: J. Torrant.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairman J. Campbell opened the meeting at 5:01 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes – August 13, 2026

J. Hodges motioned to approve the 08/13 minutes, M. Castelli seconded and approval was unanimous

3. Fire Marshal Report

August - There were 58 (mostly schools) inspections, 12 Open Burning permits issued and 1 smoke detector installed. There were no fire incidents, fire investigations, fire prevention, water supply reports, blasting permits or fireworks. Brush was burned at the recycling center on 08/10. A quote to purchase a new FM vehicle was received from Sourcewell.

September - There were 16 inspections, 1 Blasting and 9 Open Burning permits issued, 2 smoke detectors installed and 1 fire investigation. Deputy FM Litwin started fire prevention at the preschools. There were no water supply or firework activity. A quote, well under budget, was received from Hendrick Automotive Group for the replacement of the FM vehicle. The remaining funding will be used to upfit the pickup with a radio, siren, camera, lighting and any additional component required for emergency service vehicle compliance. Truck will be voted on under Budgets. If approved, FM Rogers will contact PW and follow the ToL purchasing policy to order the vehicle. J. Hodges moved to accept the August and September FM reports, J. Koser seconded and approval was unanimous.

4. Committee Reports

None.

5. Interlocal Emergency Medical Services Committee (IEMSC) Report

No update. The September meeting was canceled.

6. Pensions

a. Proposed Merit Service Pension Update

b. Pension Retention Review Process – Pay Per Call

Chairman Campbell will call Selectman D. Morosani. ToL Treasurer E. Marriott should also be contacted. Five options for modifications to the $15 amount set in the 1980s were

proposed two years ago with no activity since. Inquiries will be made as to where the long overdue MSP updates are stuck, including possibly attending a BOS meeting.

7. **Budgets** – Department, Capital & Operating Budgets

a. Fire Marshal Truck Bid

Please see the above FM September Report regarding vehicle discussion. J. Hodges moved to approve the following purchase for a new Fire Marshal service truck for $60,980.94, S. Fogarty seconded and the approval vote was unanimously carried. J. Hodges moved to approve the upfitting for emergency vehicle compliance with the condition costs do not exceed $14,019.06, M. Castelli seconded and approval was unanimous. A FC & EMS letter will be forwarded to the First Selectman's office for inclusion on the BOS 10/20 agenda.

2026 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup	$60,980.94
Upgrades to be service ready – not to exceed	$14,019.06
Total	$75,000.00

Operating Budgets – The new number for turn out gear is either $5,025 or $5,250. Since left-over money from tires can no longer be rolled over into turn out gear, every department will be required to cover a few hundred dollars for tires.

Capital – Doing an ELFD E24 off body repair now will allow its replacement to be pushed from 2034 to 2040. J. Hodges moved to approve the $400,000 ELFD E24 repairs, M. Caselli seconded and the approval was unanimous. LVFD boiler will be replaced and converted from oil to gas. In addition to the building's existing 500g propane tank for the generator, a 1000g tank needs to be installed. J. Hodges moved to approve $85,000 for the boiler and tank, M. Castelli seconded and approval vote was unanimous. The townwide radios is the second of three installments. S. Fogarty moved to approve the radios, H. Hodges seconded and the approval vote was unanimous. J. Hodges moved to approve the $260,000 NVFD repairs, M. Caselli seconded and the approval vote was unanimous. After the lengthy discussion, S. Fogarty proposed the following Capital Improvements 5-year priorities list for the FY 27/28 as:

1. LVFD Gas Boiler & Tank	$ 85,000
2. ELFD E24 (2004) Off Body Repair	$400,000
3. Townwide Radios – 2nd Round	$100,000
4. NVFD Parking Lot (paving, drain, floor) & Roof	$260,000
5. Fire Ponds	$ 10,000
	$855,000

J. Hodges moved to approve the FY27/28 proposed Capital Improvements listed above for $855,000, M. Castelli seconded and approval vote was unanimous. S. Fogarty will modify the FY 28/29, 5 year and 10 year CIP requests for the November meeting. The first CIP meeting is on 12/01/26.

8. Update on Department Physicals

Bantam FD, E. Litchfield FD, Litchfield FD, Northfield FD, LVA

All Commissioners received updates.

9. EMS Business Report

The new LVA building at 15 Woodruff Street is operating!

10. Old Business Report

None.

11. New Business Report

None.

12. Adjournment

M. Castelli moved to adjourn at 5:58 pm, S. Fogarty seconded and vote was unanimous.

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John Campbell, Chairman Date
Board of Fire Commissioners & EMS