

Montauk Fire District

August 11, 2026

Commissioners Regular Meeting 18:30 hours

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Rich Schoen-Chairman
Carminc Marino
Charles "Chip" McLean
Michael Mirras
Eddie Eurell

Also Present: Chief Peter Joyce, Jr., 2nd Asst. Chief Joe McDonald and Secretary-Deputy Treasurer Dawn E. Lucas.

Call Meeting to Order:

Chairman Schoen called the regular Commissioner Meeting to order at 18:30 hours and we all stood for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Secretary's Report:

Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chairman Marino motioned to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2026 Commissioner Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.

Purchase Requisitions:

- A purchase requisition for Boundtree for medical supplies totaling \$1,640.45, Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner McLean; motioned/passed/carried.

Audit of Bills:

- **Treasurer's Report-** June 2026- will approve at next meeting.
- Ms. Lucas presented the invoices for payment totaling \$70,892.23. Commissioner McLean motioned to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried. There were some questions concerning uniform (work ware) purchases the last several months. Commissioner Marino understands the purchase of work ware but vintage or dark denim jeans for \$88, car-hart work vests. Ms. Lucas suggested speaking with the person who ordered the items. Chairman Schoen suggested putting a list together for the custodians for the coming year since budget time is approaching. He believes we should buy in January and that is it for the year. Commissioner McLean believes it should be included in their contract. Commissioner Mirras noted the police is given a certain budget for the year and once they reach it that is it, but can buy what they want. Commissioner McLean also suggested we ask the person ordering the items to clarify. Items do get purchased and returned for sizing issues.

Committee Reports:

Apparatus: (Ambulances, 9-3-80 & 9-3-81) Commissioner McLean gave his report;

- Ambulances are doing fine
- Chief asked if 9-3-81 got inspected, answer was YES.

Apparatus: (Trucks/Chief's vehicles/9-3-12/9-3-15)

- 9-3-80 will need service after the weekend for the dashboard lights.

Equipment: No report

Buildings & Grounds: Vice-Chairman Marino gave his report

- The list from Chief McDonald- 17 out of 22 were covered.- Bike was moved. Marine antifreeze is non-toxic and for the sprinkler system, marine carburetor is gone, Yamaha lower unit came off Commissioner Eurell's boat and was set by dumpster. Dennis O'Reilly wanted it and that was a year ago. Chief McDonald to speak with Dennis about. The used oil is gone. From list-dry rotted BRAT tires that were previously deemed trash- Accordingly still good trying to sell or give away. Chief noted they have been in substation for 15yrs in a scrap pile which came from the dumpster. Vice-Chairman Marino and Commissioner Eurell will explain to Brent once in dumpster, they do not come out. Highway cone bottoms thought they were used to EVOC, if not, they will also go into the dumpster. Blue buckets with mystery liquid is from the 9-3-1 incident, trying to figure out how to get rid of it. Chief Joyce noted DEC says any speedy dry that has been used is safe to put in a black garbage bag and thrown out. It will get thrown out. The manufactured lumber in the shed, Brent thought it was the departments. If it's not yours or don't want it, then get rid of it. Scuba gear, not the districts, didn't see it must have been picked up by owner. If it's not, then make it gone. Chief said it will not go in the dumpster, it will find a home. Table saws and fishing rods will get more detail on, no information. Suitcases are gone. Electrical cord reels were thrown out. Dryer that is broken in laundry room will get more info on. Hose behind 9-3-4 keeps coming up, Chief McDonald says it was addressed already, the hose disappeared. What about the hose outside the building? As per the chiefs the new engines are full of hose, they do not need anymore. Chief Joyce said the only hose that should be left is 3" and none of the new engines is designed for that size to be the preferred operation. 9-3-1 in reserve is stocked with as much 3" as it could take. Any 3" hose there is no need to keep it. Any yellow hose can be put in dumpster, also any at the substation can go too. Old tool board off 9-3-2 went to Fully Involved. The empty storage rack behind 9-3-8 was moved. 9-3-14 old emergency light has been dumped. The broken overhead light in stairwell has been repaired. Vice-Chairman Marino will give a list to the Chiefs on what they need to take care of.
- Chief Joyce noted the dehumidifier at substation is not working and it seems to be getting a bit swampy over there. Vice-Chairman will let Brent know.
- Also we are intended to host a funeral reception here at the firehouse, is there anyway we can ask the lawn guys or housemen to take care of the weeds at least in the center island. Vice-Chairman Marino will have Brent call in the morning.

Budget and Capital Reserves:

- no report, will have next meeting.

Insurance:

- No report

Communications:

- Siren is ordered , we were told a 6 week delivery time. Once received, then the person awarded the install will have 30 days to complete.

Paid Personal:

- Commissioner Mirras spoke with Chris Boccabella, paid paramedic supervisor, no issues with either the volunteer ambulance crew or paid staff.

Department Personal:

- Chief had a question regarding by-laws, there is nothing that states you need a drivers license. He has a probationary member that currently does not have a drivers license. The member said it was a paperwork issue and it would be resolved before the end of June. It has been made aware to the Chief that the license issue may not have been resolved yet. The chief was wondering if the district has an opinion before he calls the individual and sponsor to find out what the deal is. Chairman Schoen suggested the department pass a bylaw in order to be a member you have to have a valid drivers license or the District will install the rule. Chairman Schoen noted what happens if your license gets suspended or revoked? A discussion arose, Chief stated he can address and handle it on his end, he is just asking if the board had an opinion on it. Commissioner Mirras asked how would he handle it on his end, since this individual is a probationary member it states that they can be dropped from the rolls anytime the first year you are in for any reason at all. He can speak with the individual and ask for an update on the situation and go from there. Chief just wanted to know if there is anything on the books regarding this. Chairman Schoen stated as far as he knows there is nothing on the books addressing drivers licenses.

Law:

- Chairman Schoen would like the District to send a letter to Albany, to the Governor. Both parts of the legislature earlier this year passed bills that are now sitting on the governors desk that entitle members of the fire department both EMS and Firefighters to have an \$800 tax credit over and above the 10% property tax credit. It used to be an either or and \$200. Now it's \$800 and just waiting for the governor to sign it. Chairman will also bring it up at the District Officers meeting as well. Chairman Schoen motioned to send the letter, seconded by Commissioner McLean, motioned/passed/carried.
- The information regarding the formal complaint in effect has been sent to the attorney we hired. The remainder of the information will be sent tomorrow.
- The district received an email regarding a member harvesting fungi in Montauk State Park. This person believes the individual was stealing and should not be represent the Montauk Fire Department. He forwarded to his attorney and cloud just in case.
- Chairman Schoen sent information on recently purchased apparatus, the two engines from Pierce to an attorney that is in the process of filing a class action lawsuit against fire apparatus manufacturers. A question arose, why is this attorney doing this? Chairman Schoen noted there has been an ongoing investigation by the Federal Government into monopolies of fire engine manufacturers. It cost us nothing and its all public information.
- Company 4 will reach 30 members with the latest recruitment effects.
- We are hosting the District Officer's Association dinner on August 29th. Chairman Schoen is asking Commissioner Eurell to help organize it. We need to provide dinner for about 30-40 people. He said he will work on it but will not be around.
- Chairman Schoen asked Ms. Lucas to find out the physical schedule for other districts so we can let chief know for members who need a physical.

- There has been no interest in 9-3-1A, what does the board want to do, donate it? The board will look into donating it.
- We had a request from NBC news for copies of a PCR or any information on the deceased women from a year ago on the boat at the Yacht Club. They quoted an article from the NY Post. It was sent to Joe Frank and he was concerned. He wanted to know how the NY Post accessed a PCR. The mother of the deceased who has filed a \$50 million dollar lawsuit against the owner of the boat sent in a request for copies of the PCR. Our attorney, Joe Frank did say that nothing gets released to the media.

Old Business:

- Point System- Ladder Suite- Mike Nelson a co-founder of Ladder Suite discussed the program and how it might be beneficial for us here. Mike said for awhile especially in this region there has only been two options for RMS and the CAD services but they are another option we could use. -They do everything the competitors do and more, user friendly, price point- middle option, they are web/cloud based, use a hybrid approach which makes them different, NO servers to host or maintenance contract, data secured on their platform, no need for VPN to access, no extra software to download, assigned a personal representative, most Suffolk/Nassau agencies use ladder in some way or form. Ladder Suite can provide, rig checks, kiosk stations (finger readers), 911 dispatch software, RMS (record management software), LOSAP, Department credit reports and much more. Migration takes about 3 months, there is a step by step process, reps are sent out for training to explain how to use software. The full RMS package which is a set price, includes everything or you can go the a la cart method. Mike suggested the all in package with what was already discussed. Ladder Suite works with East Hampton Town right now, not East Hampton Village. They also integrate with ESO for ambulance calls. If we sign up for the RMS (records management software) all the core features are included. If we wanted fleet management or dash cams that would be extra. There are three different ways to sign in, facial recognition, finger reader, key fob, can be customized, can be badge numbers too. Reports can be generated on kiosk/finger reader or phone. Permissions for each person can be customized and/or disabled. All modules talk to each other, certifications can be inputted and alerts sent when they need to be renewed, physicals can be recorded. Time clock on kiosk. A lot of different ways to run reports, custom reports can be built out during on boarding phase. Hydrant information noted through app, AIS receivers, can listen to radio transmissions through app, LIVE. A demo was given to the board and chiefs. Commissioner Mirras asked what separates Ladder Suite from everyone else? The features that are provided, re-investing into the company, new products always coming out. Mike was a volunteer himself and saw a need. Chief McDonald asked how does radio transmissions interface with the NERIS reports, auto populate as much as they can. The all in price per year is \$15,000 and a one time fee of \$9,000 for migration. Mike talked noted there is a 60 day trial but that wouldn't start until Ladder can get access to East Hampton Village. Also they only onboard two departments at a time. Springs Fire department uses for rig checks, Amagansett and Bridgehampton use and Sag Harbor recently switched over beginning of year.
- Siren- discussed earlier in meeting
- Lahti Engineering- has received the CAD information from Walsh surveyors. Everything is in motion now.
- Budget- Commissioner Mirras noted Ms. Lucas did a great job going through the budget, he went over it with her and we will need to go into Executive session to go over raises to figure out FICA and such, will have a better report next meeting. The August 26, 2026 meeting will start at 6pm instead of 6:30. Ms. Lucas asked Chairman Schoen to write a letter for the fire protection line item which expires at the end of this year.

New Business:

- none

Correspondence:

- already discussed previously.

Chiefs Report:

- Chief McDonald noted the department is hosting a celebration of life after Herb's graveside service, he was wondering if the meeting room could be set up like Charlie Morici's celebration of life was. Eddie Eurell stated it will be taken care off and the food was ordered.
- October 16, 2026 which is the night of our fire school, the LIRR is having a rail car demonstration in their yard. This will be considered fire school.
- Chief McDonald received a call from John Roberts with Fishing Partnerships, regarding free safety and survival training for commercial fisherman. They are giving a course in March and April of next year and will need use of part of our parking lot for the hands on portion of the course. The classroom part is being held at he playhouse. Chief wasn't sure if the request goes to the district first or department. Chief will reach out to John with the info.
- Chief Joyce presented EMS applications, fee associated with the class is \$205 per member which includes materials and online testing information, total \$1,230. Commissioner Mirras motioned to approve, seconded by Vice-Chairman Marino; motioned/passed/carried.
- New members did receive their turnout gear and all fits good. It's the quickest turnaround we have received.
- Chairman Schoen asked the chiefs if they know how many junior fireman there are. They are not sure. He believes about 20. He was just wondering because when they reach 18 they are qualified to automatically become members of the department with a simple vote of the membership. This could be a problem. Chief said they have to make that decision on their own. Also it's up to the chief to assign them to a new company if there is room. Chairman Schoen stated once a junior turns 18 and decides to join the department they are entitled to LOSAP and able to join the Benevolent. If they are still in Juniors, could be a problem.
- Chief asked if the board has considered the information that was discussed in executive session at last meeting. The board will be going into executive session to discuss again and you are invited. The chief also wanted to know if the Charmin spoke to the lawyer about the name of the department, answer was YES.

Chairman Schoen motioned to go into Executive Session @20:05 hours regarding personnel issues, seconded by Commissioner McLean; motioned/passed/carried.

Vice-Chairman Marino motioned to go back into regular session @ 20:30 hours, seconded by Commissioner Mirras; motioned/passed/carried.

Commissioner Mirras motioned to adjourn at 20:32 hours, seconded by Chairman Schoen; motioned/passed/carried.

Adjourned 20:32 hours