

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Fire Engineers Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2026, 1630hrs

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 1630hrs by Chairman John Klanchesser.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairman John Klanchesser, Engineer Ann Hebert, Engineer Jim Fabrizio, Chief E.J. Hoyt, Assistant Chief Patrick Moynihan, Executive Administrator Crystal Ruhland, Local 4104 Union: Vice-President William Carey, Member Jon Connors and Member Matthew Griswold.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Comment made to inform of an article regarding the following: “The State of New Hampshire will invest \$5 million in the Cancer Screening Pilot program for firefighters after the Governor and Council approved two contracts on Wednesday, December 17. Today, Governor Kelly Ayotte released the following statement on the approval of this new funding to help improve health outcomes for New Hampshire firefighters:

“Our firefighters put their lives on the line to help protect and serve our communities, and we’ve lost too many people far too young as a result of the hazards of their job. This investment will help us take care of those who have taken care of us with improved cancer screenings. Early detection saves lives, and I am proud that New Hampshire is supporting our firefighters to ensure they have access to these critical screenings.”

New Hampshire Department of Safety Commissioner Robert Quinn added the following statement:

“Our firefighters work tirelessly to protect Granite Staters. Unfortunately, in doing so, they face elevated cancer risks. This early screening program is a vital investment in protecting and saving the lives of those who never hesitate to answer the call.”

The Early Detection Cancer Screening Pilot Program was established by the Legislature and signed into law by former Governor Chris Sununu in 2024 to improve early cancer detection for firefighters across New Hampshire. This voluntary program allows eligible firefighters to select early detection cancer screening options based on medical need and personal preference. Screening services will be available statewide to maximize accessibility for participants.”

MINUTES:

Engineer Fabrizio made a motion to accept minutes from the January 7, 2026 meeting. Engineer Hebert seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Fabrizio - Yes. Hebert – Yes. Klanchesser - Yes.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Engineer Fabrizio made a motion to accept Chief's Report for January. Engineer Hebert seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Fabrizio - Yes. Hebert – Yes. Klanchesser - Yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Apparatus:

- Marine – Concerns were raised after recent events regarding winter weather protection for responders during winter marine calls. Actions that are potential solutions are being researched. Examples: Battery winter protection/efficiency and matting on decks to prevent responders from having to stay directly on aluminum decking.
- Tower 3 – Out of Service with a coolant leak.

2025 Budget:

- Total Turnback: \$49,343.53
- 2025 Revenue: \$206,352.70

2026 Budget:

- 2026 YTD Salary & OT: \$17,163.86; Overtime \$20,069.79; Total \$37,233.65
- 2026 Revenue YTD = \$58,033.94

NEW BUSINESS:

Detail Rates:

- PD approved new road detail rates to go in effect for 2026. In response, the Fire/EMS detail and apparatus rates must also be reviewed for consistency.
- Engineer Hebert made a motion to maintain a 20% rate increase for the Fire/EMS Details over the Road Detail Rates moving forward. Klanchesser seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Hebert - Yes. Klanchesser – Yes. Fabrizio - Yes.
- Engineer Hebert made a motion to change the apparatus billing fees based on the following schedule:

Aerial Apparatus: \$450 per hour/ four hour minimum
Pumper Apparatus: \$220 per hour/ four hour minimum
Forestry Apparatus: \$100 per hour/ four hour minimum
Rescue boat \$50 per hour/ four hour minimum
Medical Unit \$100 per hour/ four hour minimum
Utility Vehicle: \$50.00 per hour/ four hour minimum

Personnel costs shall be billed at the rate of \$84.00 per hour/four hour minimum. An administration fee of 20% shall be added to all costs that require reimbursement bill procedures.

Klanchesser seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Hebert - Yes. Klanchesser – Yes. Fabrizio - Yes.

Misc:

- Portsmouth Water will be replacing the existing water meter in the Fire Station.
- Extensive conversation was had regarding potential impact fees that could be incurred with future development plans within the Town. It has been suggested that these should be utilized for a new Public Safety Complex.

PAYROLL:

Signed.

PURCHASE ORDERS:

None.

MANIFESTS:

Signed.

GOOD TO THE ORDER:

None.

The Board Voted to adjourn at 1731; Motion by Engineer Hebert. Second by Engineer Fabrizio.
3-0.