

**Centerville-Osterville Marstons Mills Fire Department**  
**Fire Commissioners' Meeting**  
**December 16, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER:** This meeting will come to order at 1700 and will be recorded. We will begin our meeting with public comment. If you wish to provide public comment, please raise your hand, and wait to be called on by the chair. Speakers should identify themselves when called on to speak. Each speaker may have a minimum of three minutes. To be compliant with the Open Meeting Law, the board may choose not to engage in discussion on a particular comment but may wish to include the topic on a future agenda. The Board of Fire Commissioners strives to maintain an orderly and peaceable public meeting environment.

Fire Commissioners Macallister, Riley, and Brown were in attendance along with Chief Eldridge, Deputy M. Rogers, and N. Kennedy.

Roll call was taken. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the November 18, 2024, meeting.

There were no ambulance waivers.

## CORRESPONDENCE

## PERSONNEL

Z. Hunter is out with a shoulder injury. Had surgery on December 12<sup>th</sup>, said that everything went as planned and on the road to recovery.

E. Sabatinelli is out due to a non-work-related injury. He is due to be out roughly 8 weeks.

## FIRE PREVENTION

Fire Prevention continued this month with routine inspections both commercial and residential. Resale/transfer inspections were up for the month.

FPO's Lehane and Booth attended the November FPAM meeting in Auburn. This month's topic was fire sprinkler system plan review. The presenter was Michael Joanis, Chief Engineer NFSA. They also attended the Cape & Islands Fire Prevention Association meeting in Harwich. The presenter was Jake Nunnemacher Fire Prevention Engineer from the Mass Fire Marshall's Office, the topic was a variety of issues specific to the Cape & Islands. And to round out the month of November FPO's Lehane and Booth attended the Cape and Islands Fire Chiefs' Association class held at the Cape Cod Tech in Harwich. Reading the Fire Ground and Leadership Points presented by Assistant Fire Chief Walter Lewis of the Orlando Fire Department.

FPO Booth held story time to approximately 50 children at the Osterville Village Library followed by a "touch a truck" with the fire engine. The next story time will be the week of February school vacation.

This past month a total of (67) were issued by the Fire Prevention office while collecting (\$1675) in permit fees. Resale inspections of homes were the most common type of permit (31) and inspection (21). Overall Fire Prevention completed (113) inspections and/or activities, (25) of which were part of the Community Outreach "Senior Safe"

campaign.

## EMS

Ambulance Service License requirements have been fulfilled and OEMS has issued licenses for all ambulances and the department as an ambulance service.

Greenwood Emergency Vehicles has notified COMM that the two (2) Ford F-550 chassis have arrived at Horton and will soon begin production of the modules with an estimated completion of July 2025. (It is likely that they will be completed before that date).

EMT NCCP has been completed for this recertification cycle.

EMS assisted with the acquired structure training in Cotuit on December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## DISPATCH

In the month of November COMM units were dispatched to 450 calls for service: 4889 for the year through 11 months, up 42 for the month, down 56 for the year. Of the 450: 279 EMS, 7 fire, 9 motor vehicle, 74 alarm, 11 service, 25 investigations, 21 fire prevention, and 13 mutual aid. Approximately 60% of the calls were received via 911 transfer from BPD.

In addition, COMM dispatched 101 calls for Cotuit Fire in November; 1000 for the year though 11 months, up 10 for the month, and up 102 for the year.

The installation of the new dispatch console is under way with the main components in place in the room. Wiring and installation of electronic components will take place in the coming weeks. All components have been moved to the back half of the old console and is working well with minimal interruption. **Commissioner Riley – is there any news on the new dispatch center? Chief Eldridge – it is still in the early stages; Barnstable will be the host community with Sandwich and Yarmouth.**

## EQUIPMENT

A 324 – Replaced oil and filters, greased chassis, adjusted all box doors, and reinstalled fender on passenger's side.

A325 – Replaced steering box, replaced oil and filters, and greased chassis.

A326 – Replaced both headlights, replaced all four (4) brake hoses to calipers, replaced oil and filters.

E304 – Replaced faulty starter and batteries. Replaced oil filters, repaired air leaks, added pull hooks to cross lay hose netting, repaired coolant leak, and replaced faulty radio holder.

E305 – Replaced headlight, repaired front fender, and replaced air check valve.

C302 – Performed service on vehicle.

C328 – Performed service on vehicle.

Looked into overheating issue with antique fire truck.

## TRAINING

December monthly fire training includes hand on training involving Mayday/Firefighter survival practical skills using the entanglement prop. The roundtable discussion involves tactical and strategic considerations of first arriving units at a structure fire in a single-story commercial building. The goal is to enhance size up and fire ground awareness of all department members. December training also includes ice rescue preparation, review of ice rescue procedures, equipment and response.

EMS training includes an online Prodigy course on Mastering Airway Management during resuscitation for BLS/ALS providers as well as monthly M&M rounds at Cape Cod and Falmouth Hospitals via ZOOM.

A rare opportunity to train in a very large, acquired structure was offered by our neighbors at the Cotuit FD. Fifteen COMM firefighters took advantage of this training opportunity to practice fire ground fundamentals including the initial fire attack, incident command, search and rescue techniques, and firefighter survival skills. Our members worked very hard and professionally throughout the day during all evolutions. There is a potential for another acquired structure to be utilized this winter in Osterville.

**Chief Eldridge – Deputy M. Rogers worked hard on putting together the acquired structure training and it was great for the department.**

**Deputy M. Rogers – the training worked on situations with mutual aid. COMM ran the training how we typically run trainings.**

## OPERATIONS

### Marine Division

Marine 310 is out of service for winter maintenance. The department responded to 15 marine-related incidents as of November 30, 2024. Recent incidents include a search for a missing person in the area of Wequaquet Lake. There has been 86 hours of operator-based, and 209 total personnel hours of underway time logged in the 2024 calendar year. SafeBoats International will be on site the week of January 6<sup>th</sup> to replace the foam collars, bow skirt, and lettering. While out of the water, there is a list of other repair and maintenance work to be completed. All small boats are in service at their respective stations. **Chief Eldridge – Marine 310 came out of the water on Friday December 13<sup>th</sup>. Work will take place in the first week of January.**

### DIVE Team

The Dive team conducted training in November at Hathaway's Pond. The focus on the training was packaging of submerged bodies and use of air lift bags.

## BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Checking and servicing winter equipment.

Station 1 – patch, repair, and paints hatch in men's shower area, cleaned and polished kickplates on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor doors.

Station 2 – repaired and replaced faulty vacuum outlets. Ordered new parts for windows.

Station 3 – installed new dryer and installed new soap dispenser in men's bathroom.

## BUDGET

See attached budget sheet.

## PLANNING

FY26 Budget meetings starting to take place with the help of Clerk/Treasurer Molly Stevens. **Chief Eldridge – Deputy Hill has been working on streamlining the budget and consolidating line items. He has been working on the budget daily.**

Planning for the next Change of Command Ceremony will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

## COMMITTEES

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES (IT)

**Chief Eldridge - IT Director Sargent has been working with on upgrading the alerting and computer systems in dispatch along with the Comtronics.**

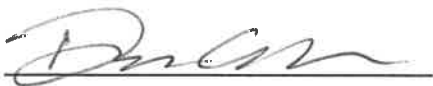
## MISCELLANEOUS

**The department participated in Toys for Tots and the Mountain Bike Club.**

## ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

**The meeting adjourned at 1729. Next meeting is January 27 at 5:00pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Doug Brown, Clerk