

Centerville-Osterville Marstons Mills Fire Department
Fire Commissioners' Meeting
March 17, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: This meeting will come to order at 1703 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 complaint 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 Hill, Deputy Rogers, and N. Kennedy and Local 2346 President.

Roll call was taken. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the February 24, 2025, meeting.

Public Comment – Commissioner Macallister congratulated Chief Hill and Deputy Rogers.

There were no ambulance waivers.

CORRESPONDENCE

PERSONNEL

Z. Hunter is still out due to shoulder injury. Gowrie Claims has requested an Independent Medical Examination (IME) which is scheduled for April 15, 2025.

M. Miskiv has been selected as the training officer. **Commissioner Macallister congratulated M. Miskiv.**

Dispatcher Monroe is out till the end of April due to scheduled knee surgery. **Chief Hill – Dispatcher Monroe is retiring in August.**

FIRE PREVENTION

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

Both FPO's attended the February FPAM meeting in Auburn. This month's topic was Life Safety Plan Review.

Continued the Junior Firefighter program at Centerville Elementary and West Villages. This month we reviewed Edith Home escape plans, safe meeting place. The students showed us the escape plans that they made at home with their families, including where the smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are in their homes, two ways out and the safe meeting place that they all decided on. We also talked about what to do at a restaurant, mall or any other public

building when the fire alarm sounds. **Commissioner Riley – what is EDITH? Chief Hill – it stands for Exit Drills In The Home.**

During the February school vacation, we had story time with Inspector Booth at the Osterville Library. Two books were read to a large group of young children. Followed up with a gear demonstration and question and answer time. This has become very popular that we have been asked by both Osterville and Centerville Libraries to come back over April school vacation, which we agreed to. We also gave a small class on Smoke & Carbon Monoxide alarms to some of the staff at Osterville Hour and Garden. We are lucky enough to have BHS Intern Regan Tivey spend some time with us in the office to learn about fire prevention.

This past month a total of (71) permits were issued by the Fire Prevention Office while collecting (\$1,880) in permit fees. Resale inspections of home were the most common type of permit (27) and inspection (19). Overall Fire Prevention completed (98) inspections and/or activities, (25) of which were part of our Community Outreach “Senior Safe” campaign. **Chief Hill – The Community Risk Reduction is hoping to host classes on Stop the Bleed and CPR classes.**

EMS

All personnel have been trained in the use of the I-gel supraglottic airway. Devices will be placed on ambulances asap.

In the process of purchasing new ProVue video laryngoscope devices. These are a more modern video laryngoscope system to replace older AirTraq devices that we have used for several years.

Continue to assist EMT’s and Paramedics with recertification as needed before the March 31st deadline.

EMS training continues to move forward with a mix of in-person and computer-based classes.

No update on new ambulance delivery. Last date quoted was July of 2025.

Chief Hill – has reached out to Allegiance to introduce himself and check on the apparatus ordered. Still waiting to hear back.

DISPATCH

For the month of February COMM units were dispatched to 421 calls for service, an increase of 9 over last February, putting the department up by 17 runs compared to the first 2 months of last year. COMM also dispatched 63 calls for Cotuit in February, giving them a two-month total of 158, which is down by 17 compared to the same period of 2025.

Work continues with the dispatch console upgrade. Anticipating that all equipment will be moved or installed over the new few weeks. **Deputy Rogers – working on familiarizing myself and getting the dispatch console buttoned up by the end of the month. We will be working on the Zetron system as it is outdated.**

Chief Hill – going forward inhouse projects are coming to an end.

Commissioner Macallister – The Zetron is tones for the outlying stations? Deputy Rogers – that is correct. We had an issue at station 2 and was able to repair that with the help of IT Director Sargent. Station 3 is working properly. Station 1 will need some work.

EQUIPMENT

A324 – Found leak on liquid spring shock. Warranty spring and shock have been ordered. Also found faulty break line, working on having break line covered under warranty.

A326 – Check engine light for DEF fluid quality on, attempted to clear code. Sent to Allegiance for DEP head assembly replacement under warranty.

Spare Ambulances – Allegiance Road Service came to check fuel leak, found loose bolt. Replaced four rear tires due to wear and age.

E303 – Replaced oil and filters, replaced intake anodes, mounted a light in rear compartment.

E306 – Replaced pump, also replaced indicator light for volume mode.

E307 – Replaced pump overheat test light switch. Also replaced the rear portable holder.

Power Products went to Station 3 to check generator for low coolant. They recommend replacing hoses, water pump, and thermostat.

Attended the EVT F3 Pump class at the FCAM Conference.

TRAINING

This month's training focused on enhancing firefighter operational readiness through a combination of classroom instruction, hands-on drills, and strategic discussions. Firefighters reviewed wildland fire behavior and suppression tactics through a review of F317/F318 and Policy 315, reinforcing safety protocols and risk assessment strategies. Crews familiarized themselves with local water sources, ensuring preparedness for a quick and efficient response to water emergencies. A NIMS Policy 609 review strengthened understanding of incident command structure. Practical search and rescue exercises emphasized victim drag techniques, while a roundtable discussion analyzed tactical approaches to a two-story residential structure fire. Personnel completed EMS training on acute behavioral emergencies and were encouraged to attend M&M rounds for continuous learning.

Training Topics:

- **Brush Fire PowerPoint, F317/F318 Review and Practical** – Firefighters reviewed the fundamentals of wildland fire behavior and suppression tactics. The review included the F317/F318 training modules, followed by a practical session to apply these concepts in a controlled environment.
- **Wildland Firefighting Policy 315** – Personnel reviewed Policy 315, which outlines the department's guidelines for wildland firefighting operations. Emphasis was placed on fire weather factors, risk assessment, tactical operations, and firefighter safety.
- **Area Familiarization (Lakes & Ponds)** – Crews conducted area familiarization drills focusing on lakes and ponds within the district. This training reinforced Knowledge of local waters and access for water emergency operations. Commissioner Macallister – how many lakes & ponds are in the district? Deputy Rogers – roughly 14-16 lakes and ponds.
- **NIMS Policy 609** – A review of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Policy 609 was conducted to ensure personnel remain proficient in the department's incident command structure and interagency coordination.
- **Hands-on Training (HOT): Search and Rescue Operations – Victim Drags:** Practical exercises were conducted to reinforce various victim drag techniques, ensuring efficient and safe victim removal during search and rescue operations.

- **Round Table Fireground Discussion** – A roundtable discussion was held to analyze strategies and tactics for a two-story residential structure fire in Class V construction. Personnel utilized training folder resources and strategy sheets to discuss the most effective operation approaches.
- **Prodigy: Acute Behavioral Emergencies** – Best Practices: EMS personnel completed Prodigy’s training module on handling acute behavioral emergencies, focusing on best practices for patient assessment, de-escalation, and medical intervention.
- **M&M Rounds** – Members are encouraged to participate in Morbidity and Mortality (M&M) rounds to enhance their clinical decision-making and patient care skills.

Deputy Rogers - We are currently working on getting new multiuse gear. We are testing two sets of gear.

Chief Hill – We have been asking for ten sets of bunker gear to replace the gear that is expiring. I was informed today that the Prudential Committee is approving the purchase of bunker gear for all members.

OPERATIONS

Marine Division

Marine 310 out of service at Crosby Yacht. They are completing the bottom coating process and spring startup work. It will be back in the water within the month.

Dive Team

The Dive Team conducted two trainings in February. The team spend a full day with a back to basics/fundamentals training in station. This served to bring out many new members up to speed on operations and procedures, and as a refresher to tenured members. The team also conducted the annual swim test and emergency skills review session at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy pool with the Barnstable County and Hyannis Dive Teams.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Mid Cape Garage Door repaired door 2 at station 1. Also serviced doors at all stations.

Station 1 – Set up and broke down for the Change of Command Ceremony. Repair and painted ladies basement bathroom due to pipe repair. Cleaned HVAC vents in 2nd floor administration area.

Station 2 – Oven not lighting, AG Appliance to repair.

Station 3 – Continued light repairs in office area.

BUDGET

See attached budget sheet. **Chief Hill – The dispatch overtime is in the red as the line has not been increased for a couple of years.**

Chief Hill presented the Prudential Committee with information to move forward with the underground gas/diesel storage tanks and painting the first floor at headquarters. **Chief Hill – running into issues when it comes to procurement.**

PLANNING

Chief Hill – Captain Morrison is accepting the deputy position at West Barnstable Fire. With that we will be holding interviews for Captain, Lieutenant, and new hire. Will have to promote a firefighter for acting Lieutenant as we have exhausted the Lieutenants list.

COMMITTEES

Chief Hill – We will be forming JMLA Committees to handle policies, clothing and uniform, and Lexipol. We have found a more local vendor to accommodate COMM Fire as we transition away from Lexipol.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES (IT)

MISCELLANEOUS

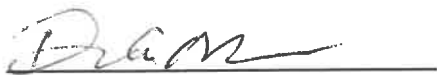
Chief Hill – Currently we have two (2) vehicles and a hover craft that we would like to surplus. Working with M. Stevens and R. Randall to handle those.

Chief Hill – Would like to discuss the possibility of allowing the Fire Prevention Officers to take home their vehicles along with R. Randall. These individuals are to report to fire scenes after hours and more time then not they have to drive past the location of the fire to come to HQ to get their vehicles.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 1753. Next meeting is April 14th at 5:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Doug Brown, Clerk