

986th Board of Directors Meeting, August 28, 2025

The meeting was called to order by President Jamie DiPace at 19:00

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Christina Adajian, Bruce Appell, Jeff Bernetich, Dave Bourgoin, Chip Carpenter, Jamie DiPace, Steve Gwizdak, Tom Post, Jim Speich and Mark Wilson. Excuse: Nancy Crozier.

Other Members Present: Jean Barton, Maria Brighenti, Gina Kline, Sharon Levine-Shein, Kristen Shaw, David Theriault, Robert Theriault

May 29, 2025, board minutes were approved with motion made by Chip Carpenter and seconded by Jeff Bernetich. Motion passed.

Communications from Members: None

Board Member Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Steve Gwizdak

- Form 990 has been filed.
- End of Year Financial Report was given to the board.
- Steve made a motion to take from the grant money \$400k to put in a 5 month CD and \$100k in a 11 month CD seconded by Chip Carpenter. Motion passed.
- For CD's only two members need to be signers. Steve Gwizdak and Christina Adajian will be the signers for the CDs.

Old Business:

- Building Committee Update
 - The Building Committee will appear before the Town Council on September 4, 2025, to give them the committee's recommendations for the fire stations. The architects will do a presentation of what is being proposed.
- System for fire alarm at Company 2
 - After some discussion, Jeff Bernetich made a motion to spend no more than \$1,000 to put a fire system at Company 2 seconded by Chip Carpenter. Motion passed.
- 501c3 By-Law changes – Will bring to the membership for a vote at the September 15, 2025, Corporation meeting.

New Business:

- Discuss Permanent Administrator for all Bank Accounts and Credit Card Account
 - The board decided to keep the president position as the administrator of all accounts.
- Carrot vs. the Stick – Jeff Bernetich
 - Jeff feels that if you use a stick, you will have more members leave, but he also knows that there has to be some accountability on the fire ground. If you offer the members a carrot, they will want to participate, they want to enjoy other people in the organization and willing to do more.
- Stipends Program
 - The board of directors discussed this topic and decided to investigate all aspects of this program, and some board members have questions that need answers. Board members needs time to get more information about this program.
- Fundraising Letter – Christina Adajian
 - Christina Adajian will email out to the board the fundraising letter on which she has worked.

Chief's Report:

- These are the items that the chief feels are critical for the department.
 - Need members to turnout for calls.
 - Need to have discussion on Safer Grant for personnel.
 - Need to clarify tax abatement for members that have 25 years of good service.
 - Finalize a duty shift program.
 - Company 2 repairs the rear stairs and re-side the shed, install new doors \$17,000.00.
 - Depending on time on fire stations, looking to put mobile office trailer at Co. 3 for gear. This would lease like the one behind Co. 1. Also looking at carport for behind Co. 4.

A motion was made by Tom Post and seconded by Jeff Bernetich to move forward with changing the quorum from 50% to 33%. Motion passed unanimously

Other Business:

- Conflict of Interest Policy – Chip Carpenter will email what he has so the board can look it over.

Motion was made by Chip Carpenter with Tom Post seconding. Motion passed

Meeting adjourned at 21:25

Meeting Schedule:

- Board Meeting September 25, 2025, at Company 1 7:00 p.m.
- Corporation Meeting September 15, 2025

Respectfully submitted by
Grace Bianchi
Board of Directors Clerk