

Centerville-Osterville Marstons Mills Fire Department
Fire Commissioners' Meeting
May 19, 2025

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 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 Hill, Deputy Rogers, and N. Kennedy, Local 2346 President and Local 2346 Grievance Committee member.

Roll call was taken. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the April 14, 2025, meeting.

There were no ambulance waivers.

Nicholas Robbins was introduced to the Fire Commissioners.

Local 2346 Grievance Committee filed a step 2 grievance pertaining to sick time buy back upon retirement. Chairman Macallister suggested revisiting the grievance once legal council was contacted.

Chairman Macallister – Commissioner Riley is up for reelection, we wish him that best in the race and hope to see him back at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

PERSONNEL

Z. Hunter has advised that he is filing for disability retirement. An Independent Medical Exam took place on April 15, 2025. Per Local 2346 contract COMM has decided to move forward with a third-party physician to perform another Independent Medical Exam.

New Hire Nicholas Robbins will start on July 7, 2025.

R. Sahl will be retiring on July 5, 2025. Rich has been a firefighter at COMM for the last 24 years.

FIRE PREVENTION

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

Story time with FF Tim at the Osterville Library was held during April school vacation along with a touch-a-truck. The inspectors also went to Cape Cod Collaborative school and gave a talk along with Barnstable Police to some of the students explaining our gear and what we do and finished with a touch-a-truck for the students.

There was a Cape & Islands Youth Fire setter meeting in April which Tim attended via Zoom. The team has been active this spring with more requests coming in. This team serves Barnstable County, with some requests from Dukes and Nantucket Counties along with Bristol and Plymouth Counties.

This past month a total of (82) permits were issued by the Fire Prevention Office while collecting (\$1,970) in permit fees. Resale inspections of homes were the most common type of permit (40) and inspection (28). Overall Fire Prevention completed (150) inspections and/or activities, (25) of which were part of our Community Outreach "Senior Safe" campaign.

EMS

Massachusetts Statewide Treatment Protocols and required medication and equipment updates to take effect June 15, 2025. Training to be released shortly.

COMM Fire to host a Pediatric Trauma simulation training on June 4, 2025. Made possible via a grant through region 5 EMS and put on by Boston Medical Center physicians.

2 new ambulances are on track for late July or early August 2025 delivery.

Former A-326 has been fully stripped and taken out of service because of mechanical issues and associated costs to repair.

DISPATCH

In April COMM units dispatched 363 calls, which is down 32 runs compared to last April. COMM also dispatched 79 calls for Cotuit in April.

Work continues on the dispatch console rebuild. Cybercom is awaiting equipment to tie in remote stations (Osterville, Marstons Mills, Cotuit) via fiber optic cable.

Dispatch changes to payroll and schedule. **Chief Hill – schedule has been changed to 10-hour days and 14-hour nights. Payroll error to be discussed at a later date.**

EQUIPMENT

A324 – Installed new break line.

A326 – Delivered to Greenwood for trade in on new ambulances arriving this summer.

A327 – Replaced turbo hoses and air filters.

E304 – Adjusted rear brakes.

E305 – Replaced all batteries.

E306 – Installed new mirror.

C323 – Replaced fuses for rear emergency lights.

B310 – Installed new brackets for bunks.

B312 & B313 – Replaced water pump, thermostats, and filters.

COMM hosted Liquid Spring on suspension system and maintenance. All Cape departments were invited to attend.

Chief Hill – new light bar has been ordered for C321.

TRAINING

This month's training continued to emphasize operational excellence and preparedness across a range of fireground, technical rescue, and EMS competencies. Fire companies focused on small boat operations and vehicle fire tactics. The Emergency Action Plan and Fire Prevention Plan were reviewed to ensure code compliance and incident preparedness. Hands-on training sessions further advanced skills in rescue stabilization using the Paratech US&R Rescue Strut System. RIT pack operations and first-due fireground decision-making were reinforced through structured discussions and hands on application. EMS training focused on pediatric cardiac arrest response and femur fracture stabilization using the SAGER splint. M&M rounds were held to support continuing medical education.

OPERATIONS

Marine Division

Marine 310 in service at Crosby Yacht Yard. Recently it responded to a capsized vessel off Sqaw Island after dark. As of April 30th, the Department has responded to two marine-related Incident during CY 2025. Five hours of operator-based, and eleven total personnel hours of underway time logged in the 2025 calendar year. Three department members are participating in a U.S. Coast Guard instructed, Boat Operator Search and Rescue course during the month of May in the eastern part of Nantucket Sound. **Chief Hill – Course was located in Bass River/ Packet Landing in Yarmouth.**

Dive Team

The Dive Team conducted training in April at Wequaquet Lake. The focus of the training was evidence recovery.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Station 1 – Installed new air filters on air handler, installed air conditioner in dispatch, elevator testing completed.

Station 2 – Repaired kitchen sink drain.

Station 3 – Generator repaired and serviced.

Deputy Rogers – Fiberoptics should be finalized this week. Parking lights to be replaced. Station 3 waiting on proposal for upgrading the a/c system.

BUDGET

See attached budget sheet.

PLANNING

Dispatcher Monroe returning in August, Dispatcher Perkins will become Lead Dispatcher.

Job posting for the Custodian will need to be re-written to be up to date with current workload.

January 2026 is the 100th Anniversary of COMM Fire. Putting a committee together to plan the celebration for July 2026.

Station 1 painting – phase 1 to begin with the first floor later this month.

COMMITTEES

Hiring committee has begun the process to hire a firefighter to fill R. Sahl's position.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 1754. Next meeting is June 16th at 5:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doug Brown", is written over a horizontal line.

Doug Brown, Clerk